

## Assad receives Spanish messages

DAMASCUS (AP) — Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez conferred with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Tuesday and submitted letters from Spain's King Juan Carlos and prime minister calling for the continuation of good relations between Spain and the Arab World. After the meeting with Mr. Assad, Mr. Fernandez Ordonez left Damascus, wounding up a two-day official visit to Syria which began Sunday. The official Syrian Arab News Agency said King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez stressed in their letters "Spain's firm position towards the just Arab cause and its eagerness to preserve the traditional relations between Spain and the Arabs." The agency said Mr. Fernandez Ordonez also extended an invitation to Mr. Assad to visit Spain which the Syrian president accepted. It did not say when the visit is to take place.

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## Iraqis raid Iranian oil stations

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iraq said its warplanes Tuesday raided pumping stations of two oil fields in Iran's southern Khuzistan province to impede repair work on damage caused in another Iraqi raid four days ago. The raid on the pumping stations at the oil fields of Ahwaz and Maroun in the southern oil-rich province of Khuzistan was carried out 11:20 a.m., according to a statement by an Iraqi military spokesman. Further damage was inflicted on the facilities at the two oil fields, said the spokesman in the statement to the Iraqi News Agency. He did not elaborate, but said all raiding warplanes returned safely to base. The facilities at the two oil fields were raided last Friday as part of Baghdad's avowed plan to destroy the oil resources of its Gulf war foe to force the Tehran rulers to accept a negotiated settlement to the conflict.

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## Masri leaves for Harare

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri left Amman for Zimbabwe on Tuesday at the head of a Jordanian delegation to take part in preparatory talks for the eighth non-aligned summit. The five-day conference, which opened its meetings in the Zimbabwean capital, Harare, on Tuesday, will prepare the agenda of the non-aligned summit scheduled to open on Sept. 1.

## Jordanian citizenship granted to Shawwas

AMMAN (QNA) — A Royal Decree was issued on Monday granting Jordanian citizenship to the deposed mayor of Gaza, Rashad Al Shawwa, Mrs. Shawwa, their four children and Mr. Shawwa's brother.

## Jordan invited to IAEA meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has received an invitation to take part in the general meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) scheduled to open in Geneva on Sept. 28.

## Wind-power generator switched on

KHARRANEH (Petra) — Jordan on Tuesday inaugurated the first wind powered electricity generator to pump underground water. The station at Kharraneh desert in the eastern parts of the Kingdom was established by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) in cooperation with the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ). Al Mulqi, director of solar energy research at the RSS, said the station aimed at generating power to pump water in regions that were not supplied with electricity. At present the station will be pumping water from a depth of 100 metres.

## 16 said killed in Afghan blast

ISLAMABAD (AP) — At least 16 people were killed and many more wounded when a bomb guerrillas hid in a suitcase exploded in a crowded waiting area at an airport in eastern Afghanistan, sources said Tuesday.

## Raimond to visit S.Arabia on Sunday

PARIS (R) — French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond will go to Jeddah on Sunday at the start of a three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia, diplomats said in Paris on Tuesday.

## Squatter kills Beirut policeman

BEIRUT (R) — One policeman was killed and another wounded in a shootout with a squatter in west Beirut, security sources said Tuesday.

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# Jordan negotiating accords with 7 oil firms, Rifai reveals

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai announced on Tuesday that encouraging oil discoveries had been made in various parts of the Kingdom and that the government was negotiating exploration and production contracts with seven foreign companies.

Mr. Rifai made the announcement during a session of the Lower House of Parliament. The House session endorsed a draft law covering an agreement on oil production and sharing between Jordan and the Jordan Hunt Oil Company (JHOC), a subsidiary of the Dallas-based Hunt Oil Company. The agreement was signed on Aug. 8.

The agreement covers an area of 8,806 square kilometres in Al Jafr region in the southern parts of the Kingdom.

Under the seven-and-a-half-year agreement JHOC will spend up to \$20.25 million

exploring for oil. Hunt is the second oil company to win an oil production and sharing agreement in Jordan this year. In March, Jordan and AMOCO Jordan Petroleum signed a seven-and-a-half-year agreement under which the latter will explore for oil in 10,950 kilometres of Jordanian territory. Mr. Rifai said on Tuesday Hunt Oil had carried out a seismic study in Al Jafr area prior to signing the agreement. The study revealed that the geographical features of the area were similar to those of North Yemen where large quantities of oil had been found.

Mr. Rifai said.

Hunt is one of the main foreign companies in charge of oil and gas exploration in North Yemen.

The prime minister expressed hope in Hunt Oil's survey in Al Jafr region. "There is a strong possibility of oil finds in huge quantities in Al Jafr area," he said.

Mr. Rifai added that the government approached other experienced foreign oil exploration companies since the local manpower and equipment available in the Kingdom were limited.

Mr. Rifai referred to a recent study prepared by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources which revealed that Jordan would need 30 years to explore oil in various parts of the country if the Kingdom was to depend on local expertise and equipment.

"We hope that our current contacts with the seven foreign companies will result in similar agreements as those signed during 1986," Mr. Rifai said, without

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# Rightist leaders voice support for Karami's peace initiative

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's rightist leaders on Tuesday called for an immediate truce in the decade-old civil war and voiced support for fresh peace efforts by Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

"In the light of positive peace indications we call for an immediate truce in Lebanon," rightist politicians and militia leaders said in a statement broadcast by the Voice of Lebanon radio station of the mainly Christian Falange Party. The new peace initiative, the second this year, capped fresh efforts by Mr. Karami, who last Tuesday broke a nine-month political stalemate by meeting Christian cabinet ministers.

The ministers agreed to call for "dialogue committee" meetings of Christian and Muslim ministers to try to resolve political differences and end sectarian strife. "We call on the dialogue committee to exert all possible efforts to unite Lebanese and help them achieve their hopes for peace," Tuesday's rightist statement said.

## U.N. officials hold crisis talks in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — United Nations officials held crisis talks with Lebanese government leaders Tuesday on ways to avert further harassment of U.N. peacekeepers by militiamen in South Lebanon.

U.N. deputy Assistant Secretary-General Jean-Claude Aime and Major-General Gustav Hagglund, commander of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), met with President Amin Gemayel for one hour at his government palace in suburban Baabda.

The two U.N. officials then flew from Baabda east of Beirut by helicopter to the western sector of the Lebanese capital, where they held a 90-minute conference with Justice Minister Nabih Berri, leader of the mainstream Shi'ite Amal militia.

Lebanese and U.N. sources said the main topic of discussion was the need for arrangements to curb the recent attacks on the peacekeeping force that left one Irish officer killed and 22 other Frenchmen and Irishmen wounded.

Presidential aides, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Mr. Gemayel had stressed in the talks Lebanon's eagerness to maintain UNIFIL's peacekeeping role without which a "dangerous security vacuum will imperil the whole region."

Mr. Gemayel also reiterated Lebanon's adherence to U.N. Security Council Resolution 425.

The predominantly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia last April announced a unilateral ceasefire but it went unheeded and violence continued along the green line divider between the mostly Christian eastern and mainly Muslim eastern sectors and elsewhere in the city.

Mr. Karami's peace call was welcomed by the leader of the Druze-dominated Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), Walid Junblatt, who is minister of tourism and public works, and by two Christian ministers, but it was not immediately known when the ministers would meet.

Syria, the main foreign power-broker in Lebanon, which deployed troops in west Beirut last month to curb militia anarchy, has not commented on recent peace efforts, the first since a Syrian-mediated plan collapsed in January.

Tuesday's rightist statement called on all militias to hand over more than a dozen ports they operate illegally to the government, to help end a deepening economic crisis.

# Non-aligned delegates open Harare gathering

HARARE (Agencies) — The eighth gathering of the world's non-aligned nations began Tuesday with Third World nations preparing tough stances on South Africa and U.S. policies in Nicaragua and Angola.

Senior bureaucrats and ambassadors opened preparatory talks around a three-sided table in a flag-bedecked, \$100-million conference centre to kick off what will be a sweeping review of the concerns of the Third World.

Under the chairmanship of Indian U.N. Ambassador Natarajan Krishnan, current head of the movement's coordinating body in New York, the officials will spend two days preparing conference documents, beginning with a draft agenda for the summit.

These will go before a meeting of foreign ministers in Harare's futuristic gold-and-purple conference centre on Thursday and Friday before adoption by the heads of state during the Sept. 1-6 summit.

With the conference specifically focusing on the southern African situation, notably neighbouring Pretoria's racial policies, security in the city and conference centre is tight.

Apart from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the outgoing chairman who will open the summit on Monday before handing over to Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, there have been no details

Hopes for peace have strengthened the ailing Lebanese pound which on Tuesday closed at 39.20/39.30 to the dollar, against Monday's close of 40.25/40.35, a gain of one point.

The currency had lost more than 60 per cent of its international value this year.

George Saadeh, leader of the Falange Party, told reporters on Tuesday he hoped that the new "positive peace initiative" would be met with other positive steps by the other (Muslim) side.

Official sources told Reuter President Amin Gemayel had sent messages to the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Algeria and the Soviet Union to explain his plans to end Lebanon's civil war.

He said in a speech on Aug. 1 that he proposed to meet all cabinet ministers and members of parliament to work out reforms to give Muslims a greater say in government.

The sources said that in his message to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Gemayel asked for Soviet support in ending the Lebanese crisis.

## Arab ministers to meet

In Antananarivo, Madagascar, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said Arab foreign ministers will meet immediately after the non-aligned summit in Harare to discuss Moroccan King Hassan's meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Mr. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), announced the meeting at a news conference in Antananarivo, where he is on a brief visit.

Mr. Arafat had two long meetings with Madagascar President Didier Ratsiraka Monday night and Tuesday, apparently on the Middle East and southern Africa.

Mr. Arafat was due to leave for Harare later Tuesday to attend the non-aligned meeting.

# Crown Prince calls for closer Afro-Arab ties and cooperation

ASILAH, Morocco (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday called for more coordination, closer links and mutual cooperation between the Arab World and Africa and said that the two sides ought to open channels for dialogue leading to better understanding and strengthened relations.

Prince Hassan, in an address to an Afro-Arab cultural forum held here, stressed the importance of maintaining strong cultural relations between African and Arab countries. He said public and private organisations and universities ought to contribute to this endeavour and open the way for exchange of experience and expertise in cultural affairs.

Prince Hassan also drew attention to four basic points for stepping up inter-cultural cooperation and economic cooperation.

Following are major excerpts from the Crown Prince's address: "I am delighted to meet you through the Afro-Arab forum which is dedicated to opening



channels of understanding and dialogue between African and Arab Nations and bolster ties of cooperation between them in embodying of historical links that bind these nations together. "The meeting today is a continuation of this endeavour and is a manifestation of our determination to promote Afro-Arab links. It is a meeting that aims at building bridges between the Africans and the

Arabs so that they can help one another for achieving further progress and prosperity."

"Afro-Arab relations draw their strength from historical, spiritual and cultural links over the ages and have therefore not been affected by colonial rule or imperialist attempts through draining resources and imposition of hegemony and tutelage over cultural and social life in the Arab and African worlds."

"Soon after gaining independence African and Arab Nations have embarked on efforts for bolstering their cultural relations based on mutual respect and aspirations for a brighter future marked with closer coordination and cooperation."

"Arab and African states have realised that through cultural cooperation they can erase all traces of cultural, social and economic backwardness resulting from the long colonial rule. But, despite efforts in this respect, the two sides have not yet fulfilled the

(Continued on page 3)

# Cabinet clears way for private sector role in converted public organisations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet has decided to transform a number of public organisations into share-holding companies operating on a commercial basis and to open the way for the private sector to own part of the capital of some of them.

The Cabinet, which met Tuesday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, said that it was requesting government departments and public organisations to provide the Prime Ministry with proposals on how these decisions could be carried out.

The Cabinet said the transformation of public organisations into shareholding companies should be a stage-by-stage process after intensive studies.

A programme of priorities should be worked out and means

of implementation should be defined, the Cabinet statement said.

The Cabinet set up a special committee chaired by the prime minister and grouping the ministers of industry and trade and finance. The committee was charged with studying each case separately and setting basic principles and broad lines for the transformation process according to a timetable. The committee, the Cabinet, said would report to the full Cabinet.

The Cabinet empowered the committee to enlist the support of assistance of experts and specialists to help it carry out its task.

The Cabinet statement said that the new measures had been taken in implementation of directives to the government by His Majesty

King Hussein and were aimed at promoting the role of the private sector to enable it to stimulate production and investments. The statement said that the government was keen on raising the efficiency of public organisations which deal directly with the citizens and was seeking to involve both the private and public sectors in handling this responsibility.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, which carried Tuesday's Cabinet statement, did not give the names of the public organisations whose status could be changed into share-holding companies. However, there have been reports that the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) and the Public Transport Corporation were among the organisations under study for conversion.

# Syria pledges total support for Libya

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad pledged unconditional support for Libya if it is attacked by the United States again, said a joint communique issued on Tuesday following his two-day visit to the Libyan capital, Tripoli.

"Any aggression on Syria or Libya will be considered as an aggression on both," said the communique on the talks Mr. Assad had with Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi before his return home Monday night.

President Assad declared that Syria stands with all its potential by the side of Libya to counter any aggressive action and to face the threats of America, Zionism and its allies," the communique added.

The summit ended amid U.S. warnings of another military strike against Libya and of joint U.S.-Egyptian air and naval manoeuvres in the Mediterranean

(See page 2).

The communique said the two leaders "denounced the Egyptian-U.S. manoeuvres because they violate the territory of the Arab Nation and are a provocation for the Arab masses."

"The two leaders called on the Egyptian masses to face their responsibilities and counter this provocation," the communique said.

The joint communique denounced the U.S. bombing of the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi on April 15 as "a grave precedent unrecorded previously by mankind which also represents the climax of state terrorism."

Even while Mr. Assad and Col. Qadhafi were meeting in Benghazi, Libya's second largest city, a senior U.S. official in Washington declared Monday night that contingency plans for a fresh bombing raid were being

(Continued on page 3)

# Expert blames designers for Chernobyl disaster

VIENNA (Agencies) — The Soviet designers of the Chernobyl nuclear reactors did not make allowances for mistakes that could be made by operators, a British atomic power expert said Tuesday.

"The whole sequence of operator errors have not been foreseen and appreciated by the designers," said Bryan Edmondson, director of the nuclear operations support group of the British Central Electricity Generating Board.

A Soviet report on the April 26 accident placed heavy blame on operator error. But Valery A. Legasov, a top Soviet nuclear power official, acknowledged on Monday that half of the country's Chernobyl-type reactors had been shut down for technical modifications.

Mr. Legasov did not reveal details or say how many reactors were involved, but Soviet documents submitted at the international conference in Vienna on the accident indicate that the country has 18 reactors of the Chernobyl design.

Mr. Legasov is the chief Soviet delegate at a conference of 500 nuclear power experts from 50 countries. The experts are meeting under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to draw conclusions from the Chernobyl accident, which left 31 people dead and sent radioactive debris across much of the world.

Western experts at the meeting say they have been struck by the Soviet openness and the level of detail in the 380-page report.

# Gulf war figures high in GCC talks in Abha

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Ministers from the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) gathered on Tuesday to consult on the world oil market and the Iran-Iraq war.

The GCC said the two-day meeting of foreign and oil ministers in the Saudi Arabian mountain resort of Abha would work on a strategy to safeguard the interests of each producer in the world oil market.

The escalating "tanker war," which a GCC official said undermined security in the region, and threats at Tehran to Gulf oil exports would be high on the agenda.

The council comprises Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Oman.

"The recent upsurge in Gulf fighting, including attacks on vessels... undermines the region's security and stability and opens the door for outside intervention," Ibrahim Al Subaihi, the GCC's assistant secretary-general for political affairs, said before the talks opened.

A week ago, four of seven crewmen aboard the Panamanian registered supply tug Abu Adil died in an Iraqi attack.

The GCC states are also concerned about Iranian threats to their oil exports, already hit by the drop in world oil prices.

A GCC statement said the ministers would draw up an oil strategy to ensure that each member state, including small producers Oman and Bahrain, had a fair share of the oil market, apparently a back-up to an OPEC accord earlier this month.

OPEC — the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries — agreed to cut output to 16 million barrels per day.

# Arab League urges S. Africa sanctions

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Arab League called for international sanctions against South Africa in a statement marking an anniversary on Tuesday of the start of a struggle to end Pretoria's rule of Namibia (South West Africa).

The 21-member League accused the South African government of practising delaying tactics and obfuscation to prevent the Namibian people from benefiting from its legitimate right.

The league's general-secretariat said in its World Namibia Day statement that fresh violence in South Africa was a symptom of the impasse into which the Pretoria government's apartheid policy had led it.

It called on the international community to renew its efforts to help the Namibian people to obtain independence in conformity with United Nations Resolution 435.

The statement said this

resolution "provides for all forms of pressure, including global and obligatory sanctions, against the Pretoria regime to force it to bow to international decisions."

In Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, black American civil rights activist Jesse Jackson said Monday the United States should support sanctions against South Africa and help its black neighbour states with their defence needs against South African attacks.

The White House reacted coolly Monday to reports that six black African leaders will invite President Ronald Reagan to visit the region for an urgent summit meeting.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes, in California with the vacationing president, did not rule out a meeting between Mr. Reagan and the leaders of the six frontline states bordering South Africa.

Zulu chief says black civil war has begun, page 8

# Pretoria ends border checks of exports from neighbours

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa said Tuesday it was halting from Wednesday border searches of traffic carrying exports from Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Zimbabwe's national news agency Zina reported earlier that South Africa had stepped up the border searches, causing delays of at least 30 hours per truck.

Customs officers began time-consuming inspections of exports from Zambia and Zimbabwe that cross South Africa three weeks ago. Both black-ruled states are at the forefront of a campaign for economic sanctions against Pretoria because of its apartheid policy.

The searches were widely interpreted as part of an economic war of nerves over the sanctions issue, but the South African government contended they were imposed to compile a statistical

picture of trade with the two countries.

In a terse statement, the foreign affairs department said: "The statistical survey of the export traffic from Zimbabwe and Zambia, via the South African transport network, will be discontinued as from Wednesday, August 27, 1986."

"The information gathered since Aug. 4 is considered to be sufficient for the present."

Foreign Minister P. Botha said in a parliamentary reply on Tuesday that Pretoria had from time to time held discussions with Zimbabwe on the effect sanctions would have on South Africa's neighbours.

But a foreign affairs department spokesman told Reuters that the decision to stop the searches was not related to any communication between governments.



# U.S. renewing pressure for allied sanctions against Libya

## Tripoli calls for attacks against U.S. interests

**SANTA BARBARA (R)** — The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, will visit Europe soon to renew American pressure for sanctions against Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, a senior administration official said.

The official, who asked that he not be named, was speaking to Reuters amid reports Col. Qadhafi might be planning new attacks on American interests in Europe.

He said Gen. Walters, a veteran troubleshooter on sensitive international issues, would leave for Europe around the end of this month and spend a few days there.

"He will be talking about diplomatic and economic initiatives against Libya, renewing our position that sanctions should be imposed," the official said.

The White House said Monday it would retaliate appropriately if Col. Qadhafi supported acts of terrorism against Americans, but the senior official said military plans were not preparing for a specific U.S. attack against Libya.

"We always have people in the planning phase," he said. "But there is no specific tailored item that the planners are working on."

The official described joint U.S.-Egyptian military manoeuvres now under way in the

Mediterranean as a "freedom of navigation exercise."

U.S. officials have used the term in the past for exercises across Col. Qadhafi's unilaterally proclaimed "line of death" across the mouth of the Gulf of Sirte, but Pentagon sources said the exercise would not include that area.

U.S. forces bombed Libya on April 15 in a clash over Col. Qadhafi's claim of the Gulf as Libyan territory.

"They have not challenged us as they had in the past," the official said.

U.S. officials in Washington said reports indicated Col. Qadhafi, possibly using hard-to-trace "surrogates," appeared to be planning attacks against U.S. interests in West Germany.

One official, referring to the U.S. ambassador there, Richard Burt, said: "There are some reports the bad guys might go after the ambassador in Bonn."

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the United States

was keeping a close watch on Col. Qadhafi and added:

"Our policy toward Libyan terrorism is unequivocal and unchanged: We will employ all appropriate measures to cause Libya to cease its terrorist policies."

"We're continuously looking at ways to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation," Speakes said. "We are and will be discussing with our allies the possibility of further high-level consultations."

Officials said evidence has mounted in recent weeks that Col. Qadhafi has shaken off personal stress caused by the April bombing raid on Libya. They declined to be more specific, but one noted that Col. Qadhafi had reportedly been driven into seclusion by the U.S. raids and added:

"We knew that wouldn't last. There have been a number of indicators for some weeks now that things are beginning to stir again — that the hiatus will soon be over."

Meanwhile, in a renewed show of militancy, Libya's Revolutionary Committees have called for attacks on U.S. interests as part of stepped up activity around the world.

The committees, set by Col. Qadhafi nine years ago to defend and expand his 1969 revolution, have been holding congresses this month.

Diplomats say the strident tone of their communiqués reflects a resurgence of militancy in the movement after a lull following U.S. raids on Tripoli and Benghazi last April.

The Tripoli Committees, the country's most powerful, approved a revolutionary plan of action and pledged to achieve their goals "through all means" when they met on Aug. 19-21.

A statement published in local newspapers said the plan calls for "unity and alliance with revolutionary forces in the world to fight and defeat the enemies of freedom — imperialism, Zionism, racism, fascism and reaction, at the head of which is the enemy of mankind, the enemy of freedom, America."

It said the committees vowed to achieve their goals "through all means, even revolutionary violence."

Libya has denied involvement with terrorism, invoked by the U.S. as justification for the April 15 raids, but it has advocated violence as a means of revolutionary change.

# Libya denounces U.S.-Egypt exercises

**CAIRO (Agencies)** — Libya's news agency Tuesday called for revolution against President Hosni Mubarak's "government" as American and Egyptian forces continued air and naval manoeuvres in the Mediterranean.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported that the first phase of the "Sea Wind" exercise ended successfully Monday, the second day of the planned five days of manoeuvres.

In a commentary monitored here, Libya's official JANA news agency described the exercise as "shameful acknowledgement ... that the traitors and mercenaries of the ruling regime in Egypt have placed Egyptian soil and territorial waters under the enemies of this proud people."

JANA called for "waging a revolution against this (Egyptian) regime which has degraded Egypt and its proud people."

American sources, speaking on condition they not be identified, said a U.S. Navy battle group, including the aircraft carrier Forrestal, two cruisers and a frigate, were participating in the manoeuvres along with about 70 U.S. aircraft.

Egypt's weekly Mayo said the Egyptian force included U.S.-built F-16s, Soviet MiG-21s, Chinese F-7s and French-built Mirage 2000s.

U.S. officials here said the exercise had been planned for months and was being conducted well away from Libya's coast and the Gulf of Sirte, where "J.S. warplanes attacked Libyan patrol boats last March."

Egyptian officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the manoeuvres were aimed at improving the country's defensive capabilities and were not directed against Libya.

U.S. warplanes attacked the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi on April 15 in retaliation for the bombing of a West Berlin disco in which two American soldiers and one Turkish woman were killed.

Libya Monday called U.S.-Egyptian air and sea exercises in the Mediterranean "provocative and terrorist."

A commentary in the official weekly Al Zahf Al Akhdar, voice of the nation's Revolutionary Committees, described the manoeuvres as "a terrorist act" intended to cover up crises faced by U.S. allies in the Middle East.

Of the current exercises, Al Zahf Al Akhdar said: "It is not the first time that the imperialist United States mobilises its nuclear fleets and airplanes of the Sixth Fleet in blatant provocative manoeuvres."

"With every crisis an American pawn in the region faces, America rushes to put its fleets on the edge of Libyan land or water in a blatant attempt to claim that the Jamahiriya (Libya) is the instigator of crises that threaten the stability of ruling regimes."

# Israel, Cameroun renew diplomatic ties

**YAOUNDE, Cameroun (AP)** — Israel and Cameroun have decided to restore their diplomatic relations, the two governments announced Tuesday in a joint communique at the end of a two-day visit by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Cameroun was among many African countries that broke ties with Israel 13 years ago following the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

In the statement, the two countries said they wanted to "give a new push to relations of friendship and cooperation, particularly in the fields of agriculture, commerce and industry, tourism, construction and housing, communication and security."

Israel and Cameroun also announced their determination to combat apartheid in South Africa.

The communique, read to reporters in French and Hebrew, also said Israel and Cameroun supported peace in the Middle East based on United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 and a "just and durable" solution to the Palestinian problem.

The two countries also agreed to establish a joint commission to work on expanding ties.

In the communique, they said the talks between Peres and President Paul Biya of Cameroun took place "in an atmosphere of frankness and mutual comprehension."

Peres arrived Monday, just as the scale of deaths from a natural toxic gas emission in remote north western Cameroun was becoming apparent.

A 17-member army medical team that accompanied the Israeli leader was the first international aid to arrive to help the hundreds of victims of the fumes, which also killed at least 1,200 people.

Peres told reporters that Biya had agreed in principle to visit Israel, but a date for the visit was not established.

He said his meeting last month with King Hassan II of Morocco was a major topic of discussion with Biya.

"There are all sorts of plans to settle the conflict in the Middle East," he said. "The true problem, in fact, is to begin the dialogue. Without that, there will be no chance for peace and it is because there is no agreement that one must negotiate."

He said his meeting with Hassan at Ifrane, Morocco, "legitimised the principle of negotiation" between Israel and Arab leaders.

Israel officials have said they

hope the renewed ties with Cameroun will ease the way to establishing relations again with many other African countries.

An Israeli government official told reporters Tuesday on condition of anonymity that Israel helped Biya rebuild an army of 6,000 plus a "gendarmerie" or paramilitary corps.

Israel also has supplied weapons to Cameroun, and has military personnel in the country, the official said, but he declined to elaborate.

## PLO deplors Peres visit

In Tunis the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said it deeply regretted a Camerounian decision to allow Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres to visit Yaounde.

An official spokesman of the PLO Political Department quoted Monday night by the Palestinian News Agency Wafa, said the visit was all the more regrettable "as the reasons which led African nations to break relations with Israel are still in force, namely the occupation of Palestinian and Arab territory and continued Zionist terrorist action."

Cameroun's decision was at odds with the position of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), which supported the Palestinians and Arabs against "Zionist aggression," the spokesman said.

Referring to a Non-Aligned Movement summit in the Zimbabwean capital Harare next week, the spokesman said Cameroun's action amounted to a challenge to non-aligned nations' condemnation of Zionism.

Peres' two-day visit to Cameroun follows a PLO diplomatic offensive in black Africa. PLO chief Yasser Arafat has made three tours since May, during which eight states established diplomatic ties with the PLO, Wafa said.

Mr. Arafat, on arrival in Antananarivo, the Madagascar capital Monday deplored African countries resuming relations with Israel.

Mr. Arafat did not mention Cameroun by name but his remark at an airport news conference coincided with a visit to Yaounde by Peres.

Mr. Arafat noted the vast majority of African states continued to support the Palestinian cause. Only Egypt, Zaire, Liberia, and Ivory Coast

have resumed diplomatic relations with Israel in the last few years.

The PLO chairman said he was making his first visit to Madagascar to discuss the Middle East and southern Africa with President Didier Ratsiraka, who met him at the airport.

## U.K. to aid Cameroun

In a separate development British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher pledged speedy aid Tuesday to ease the toxic gas disaster in Cameroun, and the Foreign Office said it told its embassy in Yaounde to spend 10,000 pounds (\$15,000) on emergency supplies.

Mrs. Thatcher's office said she sent a message of sympathy to Biya, and an offer of aid.

"We will be getting in there very quickly indeed. We recognise this is an appalling natural disaster in a very remote area," Foreign Office Minister Baroness Young told British Broadcasting Corp. radio.

She said Britain was ready to send gas masks, protective clothing, medicines and toxic gas experts.

Meanwhile soldiers wearing gas masks counted corpses and searched for survivors in villages Tuesday where officials said at least 1,200 people were killed by poisonous fumes that seeped from a volcanic lake.

Two Roman Catholic priests were quoted as saying survivors suffered terrible burns and dug mass graves for the dead, in what appeared to be the worst natural disaster in the nation's history.

An American missionary said the gas cloud wiped out 50 per cent of the inhabitants of three villages around the lake and "destroyed all life," turning what was formerly a lush rain forest into a "huge wasteland."

President Biya told a news conference Monday that casualty figures were still not complete, as army teams moved through a 10-square-kilometre disaster area seeking the dead and injured.

"The result of the disaster so far is about 1,200 dead," Biya said. Another 200 to 300 survivors were being treated in hospitals, he said.

Earlier, Information Minister Georges Nguema told reporters that military reports from the scene made a preliminary death toll estimate of at least 2,000.

An explosion in Lake Nios, about 325 kilometres north west of Yaounde, apparently released the toxic gases, the president said.

# China said to be Iran's biggest weapons supplier

**WASHINGTON (R)** — U.S. officials say China has become Iran's biggest arms supplier in the past six months, delivering at least \$300 million worth of missiles and other weapons, the Washington Post said Tuesday.

It quoted the unidentified U.S. officials as saying they feared China might aid its J-2 version of MiG-21 aircraft plus heavy tanks and rocket launchers to the Iran supplies.

The U.S. officials were concerned the Chinese arms might give Iran an crucial edge in the Gulf war, upsetting the present balance between Iran's manpower advantage and Iraq's advantage in sophisticated weapons, the newspaper said.

It said China had consistently denied it was sending the arms to Iran despite repeated objections in Peking from U.S. Ambassador Winston Lord.

"U.S. officials had no comment on the story."

Meanwhile Iraq said Tuesday its warplanes attacked a large naval target in the Gulf, a term Baghdad uses to refer to oil tankers or cargo ships.

A military spokesman said the attack was carried out at 1:30 a.m. (2130 GMT Monday) and all aircraft returned safely to base.

There was no immediate

confirmation of the attack from independent Gulf shipping sources.

Iraq's last confirmed attack on merchant shipping was against the 117,340-tonne Liberian-registered tanker Mistra on Aug. 20.

Some 56 tankers have been hit so far this year in Gulf by either Iraq or Iran, at war for the past six years.

In a separate development Iran's internal security chief said Tuesday-American Jon Patis, detained for more than a month on espionage charges, had provided information to help an Iraqi attack on an Iranian telecommunications centre.

Tehran Radio reported.

It said Information (intelligence) Minister Mohammad Mohammadi Reyschahi told a news conference Patis, 49, using an Italian passport, had worked in Iran's main satellite ground station at Assadabad and had been in contact with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

"The evidence shows that he had a hand in relaying information to Iraq via the CIA for bombarding Assadabad telecommunications installations," Mr. Reyschahi said.

# Soviets refuse to send delegation to Israel

**TEL AVIV (AP)** — The Soviet Union has decided not to send a consular delegation to Israel because of Israeli demands that a similar team go to Moscow, a government official said Tuesday.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Kremlin had "dropped the subject for the time being" because it could not accept Israel's demand.

At talks held in Helsinki, Finland, last Monday, the Soviet delegation said it wanted to send an eight-member team to Israel in October to survey property in Israel valued at \$100 million and to see some 200 Soviet citizens living in Israel. Most of the Soviet citizens are Russian Orthodox nuns and priests.

The talks, the first formal encounter between the two countries since the Kremlin severed ties with Israel in 1967, broke off after only 90 minutes.

They stumbled in large part over Israel's demand that the Kremlin allow 400,000 Jews to emigrate. A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Moscow attacked Israel for what he called "arrogant interference" in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union.

Both sides noted at the time the talks broke off that Israel's demand for reciprocity was also a factor because the Soviets did not

have a mandate to discuss the issue.

The Israeli official said that since the talks broke off, there had not been any further contact. Both countries pledged to report to their governments and said any further contacts would be conducted through normal diplomatic channels.

The official said there had not been any discussion of the Soviet consular delegation through the Dutch embassy which represents Israeli interests in Moscow, or through the Finnish embassy which represents the Soviet in Tel Aviv.

"I assume there will be such contacts in the future, but so far there's been nothing," the official said.

The daily Maariv reported the Soviets wanted to stay three months in Israel and presented several specific requests, among them the rental of a villa and exemption from duties for the purchase of several cars. The daily Davar reported the Soviets also wanted security protection and diplomatic mail services.

The Israeli official said that at the Helsinki talks the Soviets "raised several technical details" regarding the delegation, but he declined to say what they were.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Iraqi transport minister due today

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraqi Minister of Transport and Communications Abdul Jabbar Al Assadi is due in Amman today on an official visit to Jordan. He will hold talks with Minister of Transport Rajai Dajani on bolstering bilateral cooperation in transport-related affairs. Mr. Assadi will also attend the opening of the general assembly meeting of the Jordan Iraq Land Transport Company on Thursday. According to Mr. Assadi's under secretary, Mr. Ghassan Radwan, the assembly will discuss a company report on operations over the past three years and a plan of action for the future.

## Jordan to buy barley from Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraq is to sell Jordan 50,000 tonnes of barley, according to an agreement reached in talks between the Ministry of Supply and the Iraqi government. Mr. Samir Abu Na'neh from the Ministry of Supply, who visited Baghdad to conclude the deal, said that he also supervised the start of shipping a consignment of barley to Jordan which was agreed upon at an earlier date.

## Ministry opens evening classes for adults

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has opened a number of evening schools for male and female adults who missed education at day schools earlier in their lives. The ministry's director of education Abdul Rahmak Khamis said that men can take evening classes at Prince Hassan, Sharif Hussein Ibn Nasser Al Hashimi, Raghdan, Sweileh, Tawfiq Abdul Fuda schools and women can take evening classes at Hind Bint Ataba, Sweileh, Jabal Amir Faisal, Al Hussein, Marka and Taj schools for girls.

## Khayyat confers with Soviet envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Tuesday conferred in his office with the Soviet chargé d'affaires in Amman. They discussed an Islamic conference to be held in the Soviet city of Baku in October and invitations to Jordanian personalities who will attend the conference.

## Mayor to attend conference on cities

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Municipality will participate in a general conference organised by the Islamic Cities Organisation to be held in Cairo in the second half of September. Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh will attend the conference and hold talks with the governor of Cairo on cooperation between the two capitals in public service affairs.

## India invites Jordan to scientific talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has received an invitation from the Indian government to take part in the 74th annual meeting of the Indian science congress due to be held in New Delhi at the start of December. Taking part in the congress will be approximately 4,000 scholars and scientists from around the world.

## Madaba to spend JD 52m on development projects

MADABA (Petra) — A total of JD 52.29 million will be spent on development projects in Madaba district in the course of the five-year national plan and this sum will be spent on infrastructure, public services, industry, agriculture, education, health, tourism and animal husbandry, according to Madaba District Governor Abdul Halim Al Awwad.

He said that the district is inhabited by 88,000 people and that the new five-year plan is bound to benefit most sectors. Nearly 49 per cent of the allocations will be invested in infrastructure while 26 per cent will be allocated for social services, he continued.

Mr. Awwad said that one of the most prominent projects is setting up of a wildlife reserve extending from Wadi Zarqa Ma'in to Wadi Al Shaqif, covering an area of over 220 square kilometres. This JD 27,000 project, he said, is expected to promote tourism in the district.

## Corporation asks Salt residents about their housing needs

AMMAN (Petra) — The Housing Corporation has started distributing questionnaires in Salt asking the city's inhabitants about the prospect of carrying out housing projects in Salt. Housing Corporation Director General Shafiq Zawaideh announced Tuesday.

He said that the forms will be distributed to all citizens in Salt in an effort to find out if they wish the corporation to build housing units for residents in the city.

## Qweismeh holds festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Governor Ahmad Hindawi Tuesday opened a seven-day cultural festival at Qweismeh. The festival includes a reading tent, cultural programmes, story reading and childrens book exhibitions organised by the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA) in cooperation with the Qweismeh and Jweideh municipalities and community and cultural centres in the district.

## Jordan is negotiating accords with oil firms

(Continued from page 1)

giving the companies' names or nationalities. However, he described them as "foreign experienced and international".

The prime minister gave no figures on oil funds made in the Kingdom.

Minister of Energy and Oil Resources Hisham Al Khatib was quoted by the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) magazine last month as saying that 14 wells had been drilled in the Azraq area, half of which were producing and three or four were considered commercial.

Preliminary production in that area started in 1984 and last year totalled 2,853 tonnes, which were trucked to the Zarqa refinery, MEES said.

Dr. Khatib told the magazine that there were no fixed production figures from the Hamzah field in Azraq but that figures from 1986 "are much more than those of 1985".

Sources close to oil exploration companies quoted by MEES estimated production at the fields at the Azraq fields between 2,000 and 3,000 barrels per day. There has been no official confirmation of these figures.

Prior to the House's endorsement of the Jordan-JHC agreement — which was presented to House members Monday evening — a debate broke out between some deputies over whether or not the accord should be referred to the House's legal or financial committee for further studies.

According to the House's internal charter, draft laws should be presented to deputies 72 hours prior to open debate.

At the outset of Tuesday's debate, deputy Maarouf Rabbas, who is also the financial committee's rapporteur, called on the House to grant the accord an "emergency legislation status," in view of its importance in terms of execution.

Outspoken deputy Leith Shbeilat protested against the call, saying that the agreement should be "studied thoroughly to avoid future problems."

According to Mr. Shbeilat, the Hunt group of companies "is bankrupt due to the numerous (loss-making) transactions it had carried out in the past," and "if it was not for American banks' support, the company would have collapsed long time ago."

At this point, Mr. Rifai clarified that the group of companies Mr. Shbeilat was talking about was not the Hunt Oil Company with whom Jordan signed the Ag. 8 contract.

The firm which won the contract "is a respected, independent and experienced company which is considered as one of the world's most leading institutions in areas related to oil and gas exploration," Mr. Rifai said.

"We concluded our agreement

with Hunt only after the government gathered all information about the company's experience," the prime minister said.

According to the House's internal charter, the House has no right to alter any agreement signed between the government and another party. The House only has the right to endorse or reject the concerned agreement in its entirety.

However, Mr. Shbeilat and another deputy, Dr. Abdullah Al Akailah, insisted that the House should have a look at the agreement before it was passed.

"It is our right to discuss agreements but not to amend them," Mr. Shbeilat said adding that such an approach "will make the government feel that a change is needed if deputies believe so."

Deputy Abdul Baqi Gammo interrupted the debate urging the deputies to close the discussion.

Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayed then put the Jordan-JHC agreement to vote. It was

## Syria pledges support for Libya

(Continued from page 1)

made because of indications the Libyans were planning new "terrorist" strikes, or encouraging them.

The joint communiqué also denounced the visit by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres last month to Morocco for talks with King Hassan.

"This visit is a treacherous deed and a challenge to Arab nationalist feelings," it said.

The two leaders agreed that Arab unity "is the historic and decisive answer which will strengthen the possibility for struggle and resistance," the communiqué said.

Mr. Assad and Col. Qadhafi held three sessions of talks in Benghazi after the Syrian leader, Moscow's closest ally in the Arab world, flew there Sunday for an unannounced visit.

Syria and Libya are the only Arab supporters of Iran in its six-year-old Gulf war with Iraq. Sources in Damascus earlier reported that Mr. Assad sought to find ways with Col. Qadhafi of defusing the escalating Gulf war.

Damascus Radio Monday said the talks also focused on the escalating "Zionist-imperialist onslaught against the Arabs and the efforts to break Arab steadfastness in the face of this aggression."

For reservations call Mr. Samir Khalilieh Tel: 819564, Abdoun, near the Orthodox Club.

...to the tunes of merry music

## Shaka'a meets prominent Arab justice official

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Justice Riad Al Shaka'a Tuesday met with Mr. Mohammad Miko, secretary general of the Arab Justice Ministers Council, who is now on an official visit to Jordan. They discussed cooperation between the Jordanian Justice Ministry and the council and with the Morocco-based Arab Centre for Legal and Judicial Research, directed by Mr. Miko. The meeting was attended by the ministry's under secretary, Mr. Majed Ghanma, and senior ministry officials.

Mr. Miko arrived in Amman on Monday evening for a visit expected to last several days and he said his talks with Mr. Shaka'a will follow up on the implementation of resolutions and recommendations issued by the Arab Justice Ministers Council.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Miko said that his talks with Mr. Shaka'a during the visit will also cover means of bolstering ties of cooperation among Arab countries in judicial affairs, especially unified laws dealing with civil status, arbitration in commercial disputes and training judges to raise the standard of the judicial system in the Arab World.

Mr. Miko paid tribute to Jordan for preparing working papers which were discussed at the council's fourth meeting last April and he said these papers covered subjects to enhance the concept of joint Arab action in judicial matters.

The first Arab Justice Ministers' Council meeting was held in 1977 and the second in 1981 when it was decided that Rabat would be the council's headquarters.

In the meantime, the Justice Ministry announced Tuesday that it will participate in an international conference for combating world terrorism which is due to open in the United States on Sept. 14. The ministry will be represented by two Jordanian judges at the five-day conference.

He added that under the plan, four resthouses will be set up at tourist areas and said that JD 45,000 has been allocated for them. In addition, two three-star hotels will be built over the coming five years in Madaba district at an estimated cost of JD 300,000.

## Resthouses

He added that under the plan, four resthouses will be set up at tourist areas and said that JD 45,000 has been allocated for them. In addition, two three-star hotels will be built over the coming five years in Madaba district at an estimated cost of JD 300,000.

units for residents in the city.

In the meantime, the corporation has made plans for setting up a housing project in Salt for those with limited incomes. Mr. Zawaideh added. He said that the corporation will embark on working out designs for units to be built in the light of the information provided by the citizens of Salt regarding the type of homes they wish to have. He went on to say that the cost of each type of unit will be estimated at a later date.

community and cultural centres in the district.

DLDNA Director General Ahmad Sharkas delivered a speech at the opening ceremony in which he outlined the objectives of the festival which, he said, aims to stimulate cultural activity among the local residents. Dr. Sharkas also spoke of his department's activities and programmes.

towards benefitting the local community and helping it to resolve pressing problems and this process could be made to accelerate within a close system of economic and scientific cooperation among the countries of the southern hemisphere in general and Arab and African countries in particular.

Cooperation can be in the fields of industry and trade and also in finding means to solve the food crisis and food shortages. Food security is the basis for independence of African and Arab countries and therefore all efforts should be directed towards developing food production with the help of science."

5. "The best and most convenient means for maintaining strong cooperation between African and Arab countries is through educational institutions and research centres and through the exchange of scholarships for students."

6. "Cultural cooperation between the two sides can be carried out through well-planned training of human resources."

"In my view governments should not be alone in shouldering this responsibility. They ought to be assisted by public organisations, trade and professional unions, youth organisations, universities and other institutions which no doubt possess the expertise and the means for such an endeavour."

Prince Hassan, who arrived in Rabat Monday on his way to the Afro-Arab forum at Asilah, said in a statement to the press that the meeting "will be yet another chance for renewing contacts and strengthening Arab-African ties."

Prince Hassan was the guest of honour at a banquet hosted by King Hassan II of Morocco Monday evening.

1. "I believe that the individual is the most important element in the focal point of the process of cultural development and therefore I believe that our efforts should focus on transforming citizens in our communities into active elements that can achieve a brighter and more progressive future."

2. "Since man is the infrastructure for building any community the leaders of and governments of African and Arab Nations should enable their citizens to become creative and should facilitate the means to progress and provide them with the tools for development."

3. "I believe we should build a strategy by which we can direct our human resources and social organisations towards playing their role in the light of the given social, political and economic circumstances by providing the necessary technology and science."

4. "Creativity should be directed

## Ministry allocates JD 100m to improve health, medical services in West Bank

Higher council convenes today to discuss supervision of services in occupied territories

By Abdullah Nsour  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Health has allocated JD 100 million to help raise the standard of health services in the occupied Arab territories over the coming five years.

A Health Ministry spokesman said that the allocation has been made to help the Arab population resist the Israeli authorities' drive to make them dependent on Israeli health services and to meet the Arab population's needs of medical care which has been deteriorating under Israeli occupation.

The allocated money, the spokesman said, will cover the cost of building health centres, providing medical facilities and training paramedics and other staff involved in medical services.

The Health Ministry plans to create a unified body to become responsible for medical services and this body will be under the

JDA preparing study on W. Bank dental services  
The Jordanian Dentists

Association (JDA) is preparing a study on the dentistry situation in the occupied Arab territories prior to presenting a report on it to an ad hoc committee formed by the Higher Health Council in Jordan, JDA President Walid Maraqa announced here Tuesday.

He told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the study is designed to determine the number of dentists working in the West Bank, the services they offer and the needs of the inhabitants. Help to be provided in this concern, he said, is designed to support Arab steadfastness and to help Arab dentists in their duty.

The committee groups representatives of the Ministries of Health, Social Development, and Occupied Territories Affairs, the Jordanian Medical Association, the JDA, the Jordanian Pharmacists Association and the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society, Petra said.

## Ministry to conduct surveys on domestic energy consumption

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources will today embark on an experiment involving a selected number of homes in the Kingdom to determine their energy consumption.

A ministry spokesman said that the study will be preliminary research for a comprehensive survey which the ministry plans to carry out by the middle of the coming month. Next month's survey will cover approximately 1,000 homes and is designed to gather information related to the consumption of energy for domestic purposes.

The aim of this survey is to determine the trends and quantities in energy consumption which will be analysed to enable the ministry to benefit from the results in drawing up a policy for

JORDAN TIMES

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### Game of scaming and stealing

SINCE Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev's accession to the Kremlin leadership, there has appeared to be not only an all-out Soviet effort to relinquish the ideological rigidity that characterised the earlier era in world politics but also to readjust Soviet foreign policies in order to improve relations with the Western bloc countries and reduce tension. In the overall strategy, the Soviets are also considering to address actively outstanding issues which have strained relations with neighbouring countries.

They have shown willingness and understanding to resolve the border dispute with China that has kept the two communist giants bitter antagonists since 1969; and it is quite possible that the current Soviet initiative will lead to a reduction of Soviet troops along the Chinese border as well as a withdrawal of Soviet forces from Mongolia, a Soviet ally, stationed to guard the China-Mongolia border. The Soviets also have proposed to withdraw a few contingents of soldiers from Afghanistan.

These are apparently small steps, but they portray a definite change in Soviet foreign policy and that should be welcomed. The Kremlin's willingness to talk to the Israelis in Helsinki after almost 20 years of diplomatic hibernation should also be viewed as part of its present mood of mending fences with its adversaries in world politics. It was not that the initiative for talk came from the Israelis: The issues that were to be discussed did not seem to be of cardinal importance to Soviet interests either. The Soviet idea of sending a delegation to Israel to survey Russian Orthodox Church holdings and examine, among other things, the status of Soviet citizens living in Israel, should be seen in the light of a long-term plan of inducing the Israelis to a more meaningful dialogue that would ultimately lead to discussions of more burning issues such as resolution of the Middle East conflict. However, the Israelis schemed dextrously behind the scenes to allow the initial Soviet step to falter. Before even the discussions commenced, the Israeli government started betraying its gift for grabbing. Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the foreign minister, epitomised thus: "We have explained that as far as we are concerned, the valuable property or treasure we have in the Soviet Union is the Jewish community of more than two million that is trapped there."

The Zionists of Israel consider the Jews all over the world as their "property." Whenever they get an opportunity, they do not mind even stealing them as they did in the case of the Falashas. The blurring out of Mr. Shamir has made clear to the Soviets the extent of the Zionist danger. It is also a fact abundantly clear to all that the Israelis do not even observe one of the most important commandments of God: "Thou shalt not steal," and more so because the Zionists' definition of "property" is very loose to embrace also Jews all over the world, including those of the Soviet Union.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Different heads, same heart

ISRAELI Prime Minister Shimon Peres has announced that his Labour Party would not join a coalition government in Israel if the Likud adopted a different policy than that of the present government. His statement comes at a time when the Likud, a partner with Labour in the present coalition is making ready to head the government under the premiership of Yitzhak Shamir. In his statement Peres has thus summed up Israel's policies on the domestic and foreign fronts, and reiterated Israel's determination to pursue the Zionist expansionist schemes which are based on occupation, wars of genocide and aggression. The imminent change in the Israeli government's leadership will therefore not bring about a change in Israel's position. Israel will remain the same state that adopts aggressive policies based on military might and characterised with malice and hate towards the Arabs and marked with racism which drives its leaders to pursue war against the Arab people. Although the two ruling parties in Israel might differ about courses to be followed in consolidating Zionist gains in the region, they definitely do not differ on the view that aggression and occupation should continue and that everything in Israel's power should be done to expand the Jewish state's realm at the expense of the Arab Nation.

#### Al Dustour: Who's to blame?

THE resumption of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Cameroon should be regarded as a political gain for Israel in the black continent although it will achieve very limited practical benefit for the Jewish state in view of the insignificant status of the Cameroon in Africa. By restoring ties with the Cameroon, Israel has thus reestablished ties with four African nations, and is on the way to strengthening ties with other black states who had severed relations with Tel Aviv following its 1967 aggression on the Arab states. At the same time, this Israeli infiltration into Africa should be regarded as a new setback for Arab countries' policies in the black continent. In view of the political developments over the past few years we find it difficult to denounce the Cameroon's move, now that we have seen more than one Arab country holding contacts with the Jewish state, welcoming its leaders and opening negotiations with them. Cameroon's decision to reestablish ties with Israel, following in the footsteps of the Ivory Coast and Zaïre, does not surprise us in the least and does not prompt us to blame any other country. We have to blame our weakness and our divisions for all the setbacks we are facing on the regional and international fronts.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Helping the West Bank

THE situation in the occupied Arab territories calls for immediate and well-planned action to help our Arab kinsmen, and calls for exploiting time because the longer the present situation lasts the more difficult it will be to save the Arab inhabitants. We have to bear in mind that any procrastination in this endeavour and any action benefiting selfish and individual interests can only serve the common enemy, and help the Israelis to consolidate their hold on our occupied territory. Jordan has realised the necessity for working now to free the occupied territories and for this reason it is embarking on measures designed to ensure decent living for our kinsmen that is bound to bolster their steadfastness in the face of Israel's arbitrary rule. In doing so, Jordan has no political objectives, neither is it infringing on the rights of others in the Palestine question.

## Fine art of prophecy in oil industry

By Riad Khouri

SOMEbody once said that even a parrot can be taught economics: all the bird has to do is learn the words "supply" and "demand." In that these two terms are at the heart of any economic analysis, fair enough. But supply and demand are not static concepts, and in a world where rapid and accelerating change has become universal, other ideas have to be brought into the picture to explain economic phenomena. So economists superimpose a time factor on their analyses and attempt at forecasting, and you'll frequently find them talking about the "short," "medium" and "long" runs. But what exactly do these terms mean?

The quick answer here is that the time factor operates differently in different economies and industries. A farmer's short-run is defined by such factors as sowing and harvesting and may involve months, while the short term on a stock exchange can be a matter of minutes only.

The long-run in economic analysis is the time it would take for all or virtually all factors determining supply and demand to change. Obviously, what happens to prices and production of any good or service in the long-term can be very tricky to forecast. Nevertheless, businessmen, economists and others are often forced to make long-term predictions.

The oil industry is a good example of this problem. On the demand side, countries, businesses and even individual consumers can't suddenly decide they want to use a lot more or a lot less petroleum products and expect to put their decision into effect in a matter of weeks or months. Let's say your house is kept warm by oil and its price suddenly shoots up, as it did in 1973-4: you just can't switch to coal, solar energy or whatever and expect to go over to the new system right away. Suppliers of

petroleum are in a similar position. If they see the prices of their products soaring, it isn't possible for them to increase production immediately. Oil output can be changed by a few percentage points over a matter of weeks, but to triple or halve production might take months or even longer.

The whole subject of oil prices has been back in the news recently as OPEC members squabble among themselves, prices drop and the petroleum industry continues to change rapidly. In the short run, prices are falling and will continue to do so. As far as demand is concerned, less petroleum is consumed in the Northern Hemisphere during the summer: on the supply side non-OPEC producers, and even some in OPEC are maintaining production. Result: falling prices.

But will prices continue to drop, or to put it another way, what are the long-term prospects for oil?

An interesting answer to this question came from the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Paris-based organisation which groups the main 21 industrial countries outside the Soviet bloc. The IEA was set up in the wake of the OPEC price revolution of the 70's and it stresses "long-term supply security" i.e. energy self-sufficiency among its members.

Talking on the BBC, David Jones of the IEA predicted that "unless the necessary policy action is taken... the world energy and oil market could get increasingly tight in the 1990's." In other words, the IEA claims, unless hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation, conservation, and the switch to alternative sources of energy are pursued with continuing vigour, oil prices could shoot back up in the next few years.

The IEA has been accused of

being "confrontational" in its relations with OPEC. Its predictions are certainly not those of a disinterested observer of the international economy. The effects of the oil price rises of the 70's are still fresh in the minds of the rich countries, and they don't want a repetition of what for them was a nightmare. But for Third World producers in general and OPEC in particular, price rises are good things. China, Egypt, Mexico and other poor countries have become major producers over the past few years, and increased revenue from higher prices are vital for their attempts to ensure decent living for their people.

On the other hand, developing countries which don't produce oil benefit from falling prices; for the really poor, it could even be literally a matter of life or death.

But for Japan, West Germany or other rich non-producers, higher oil prices are simply

inconvenient and set to slow down their economic growth. The people of Tokyo or Munich are not about to starve to death, particularly as a result of expensive petroleum. And African famine problems won't be solved by falling oil prices though that would probably help make life easier for a lot of Sudanese and Ethiopians.

Anyway, whether you're a fat cat sitting in an office in Jeddah, a slightly less opulent middle class Westerner, or a peasant in Pakistan the price of oil is vital. And guesses about the petroleum market in the long-run have to continue being made. But the next time you see a prediction about oil prices in the 90's keep two questions in mind: Does the analyst have a vested interest in a price change? And, how much weight does he attach to his guess? In economics, as in other things, people who claim to know it all are often useless and sometimes even dangerous.

## Leading Western dailies reflect official line towards Mideast conflicts

By Dr. Badran Badran

The following article is part one of a three-part series on the handling of Middle East issues and conflicts by four leading Western newspapers during the years 1980-1982. The other two parts will appear in subsequent issues of the Jordan Times. The writer is assistant professor of journalism and mass communications at Yarmouk University.

THIS study has sought to research the editorial treatment given by four quality European and U.S. newspapers to the Arab-Israeli conflict during one of the most turbulent periods in the present history of the Middle East. The period chosen for the study extends from 1980 to 1982, and includes such major regional developments as the Israeli raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor, the assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Al Sadat, the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula, the Egyptian-Israeli autonomy talks, the widespread unrest in the occupied West Bank and the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in the Summer of 1982.

The four newspapers chosen for the study were *The Times* of London, *Le Monde* of Paris, *Il Corriere Della Sera* of Milan and *The Washington Post* of Washington, D.C. These papers were selected because of their influence both inside and outside of their cities and countries. Moreover, their content, their readership and their relationship with the public and government are considered by many scholars to be exemplary. They are usually read by public officials, intellectuals, business leaders and other prominent figures and groups in each society and in large circles abroad. One prominent American journalist once noted that an elite newspaper considers itself as a trustworthy and responsible source of information and, more importantly, as a leader in public opinion, not a follower of trends.

The study found the views held by the four papers to reflect to a large extent basic positions held by policymakers in the U.S., Britain, France and Italy. This finding in particular deserves some comment.

In scrutinizing the performance of these influential newspapers in their editorial columns, this researcher has sought to examine several variables which relate to the Middle East conflict and how it is covered in the opinion departments of these papers. Many previous studies have focused on other aspects of foreign press performance regarding that conflict. Robert Trice, for example, has studied the relationship between interest groups which lobby in the U.S. Congress and their impact on public opinion concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict. Indian journalist V.M. Mishra analysed news stories about this area in five leading American media. Michael Suleiman, an Arab-American wrote about stereotypes as weapons in the press treatment of the Arabs and the Israelis. Janice Belkacoul, and Issam Mousa of Yarmouk University, researched extensively the image of the Arab in the American media. Dr. Mousa's work has already appeared in the *Jordan Times* in an abridged form. Finally, Charles Wagner, David Daugherty and Michael Warden wrote in separate works about prestige press editorial treatment of the Middle East during earlier periods.

The focus of the study has been the editorial, the formal corporate voice of the newspaper. Editorials are usually written by the editor, the publisher, or by a specialised editorial writer. They are written in such a way as to suggest clearly that they are the official opinion of the paper. In the U.S., the editorial has been referred to as

"the institutional expression of opinion." Generally speaking, editorials are perceived by their writers and readers as forums to "inform, influence, stimulate and motivate readers concerning important issues." In the British press, editorials—or "leaders" as they are referred to there—share most of the characteristics of their American counterparts. Among the variables used to study the editorials were the topics or themes, the issues, personalities or political actors, diplomatic initiatives, symbols or political jargon and direction or bias of the editorial.

In general, the study found that the four papers published 3,088 editorials dealing with foreign affairs during 1980-1982. Of this total, 343 editorials dealt exclusively with the Middle East conflict. All four papers were found to be remarkably similar in their emphasis on the same issues, countries, symbols and personalities. Their interest in the area was not evenly distributed throughout the three-year study period. During times of regional crises, the four papers gave special attention to the region but soon after that the Arab-Israeli conflict would disappear until a new development occurred. The study also found the views held by the four papers to reflect to a large extent basic positions held by policymakers in the U.S., Britain, France and Italy. This finding in particular deserves some comment.

Although quality newspapers contend that they are both financially and politically independent of government influence and control, the conclusions reached by this study shed some doubt over that contention. By virtue of their geographic proximity to government—being published in their capitals—editors and reporters of elite papers are exposed to the official version of events more often than to other potential sources. Studies have confirmed that prominent journalists in the U.S. and indeed around the world have a special relation with the political establishment which is beneficial to both sides. For the politicians it is a valuable means of conveying the official line and for influencing the journalist whether he is an editor, editorial writer, columnist, cartoonist or merely a key reporter. For the journalist, this relationship is crucial to his success since it guarantees an uninterrupted and authentic flow of first-hand facts and interpretations about important

Lord Carrington "clearly understands now that the West cannot achieve full-hearted cooperation with the Arabs unless it is prepared to take a firmer and clearer line on the Palestinian issue."

events. It should be mentioned, however, that editorial writers were found in general to be influenced more about foreign affairs than domestic ones. The importance of press commentary to policymakers in democratic societies was explained by Bernard Cohen in his book "The Press and Foreign Policy." In his book, he wrote: "Opinion in the press—editorial opinions, the viewpoints of columnists and commentators, the positions or reactions, spontaneous or elicited, of other policy officials and 'newsworthy'

"No one should sell short a diplomatic instrument that has at least three in-nense achievements to its credit: the first, peace between Israel and an Arab neighbour, the drastic reduction in the possibility of another general Arab-Israeli war, and the propelling of the question of Arab-Israeli relations to the centre of public discussion throughout the region, most of all in Israel. As imperfect as Camp David is, there is no conceivable alternative to it."

individuals and groups that are reported in the news columns, even the views of the editors concerning the relative importance of items in the news—constitute one of the leading channels by which foreign policy officials can regularly and continuously tap an informed and articulate segment of public opinion."

Press opinion is also regarded as important by government officials who look to it for clues to the degree of public support or opposition to their policies. For example, a U.S. State Department official in Washington once said that his superiors were "extremely responsive" to press opinion and they took it into account

they are likely to think about, on an international level, the power of the press to inform, mould or change attitudes is heightened. The picture provided by the four papers of the world and of our region is bound to leave their readers with certain dispositions about the conflict between Arabs and Israelis, about the region's problems, its peoples, its policies and about its relations with the outside world.

#### How the world looked in early '80s

How did the world look in the early eighties as seen by the editorial columns of *The Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Le Monde* and *Il Corriere Della Sera*? It was a decade characterised by worldwide instability and an economic recession that brought together the rich and poor nations of the world. These were times of conflict; armed as well as political. At least three regional wars were fought during the period from 1980 to 1982. Five heads of state, including the spiritual leader of the Catholic Church, were targets of assassination attempts. The cold war between the superpowers replaced the East-West rapprochement of the 1970's, better known in diplomatic parlance as détente. Famine became an even worse problem for many African nations, and refugees increased in number and in suffering by natural and man-made disasters.

1980 was a year in which Rhodesia officially became the independent nation of Zimbabwe; it was the year of the aborted



Dr. Badran Badran

Community (EC), elections in the United States, the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, developments in Northern Ireland, in Iran and the Falklands/Malvinas war. For its part, the *Post* wrote extensively about developments in Poland, Iran, the Soviet Union and Afghanistan and about developments in Central America. *The Corriere Della Sera* emphasised events in Europe, Poland, the United States and French politics in particular. Finally, *Le Monde* commented extensively on the Polish crisis, U.S. elections, Iran, Spain and Italy.

During 1980, the Middle East was preoccupied mostly with Egyptian-Israeli relations as well as with the civil war in Lebanon. On February 26, 1980, *The Times* published an editorial commenting on the exchange of ambassadors between Cairo and Tel Aviv. The editorial praised both capitals and then went on to

principle of mutual recognition between Palestinians and Israelis, "an essential element in a just and durable peace."

#### Israeli settlements

On March 1, 1980, the Arab countries took their case against Israel's settlement policy to the United Nations Security Council. After debating the issue, the council adopted a resolution calling on Israel to dismantle its settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It was the first time that the U.S. had joined the 14 other members of the council in rebuking Israel on its settlement policy. However, on March 3 President Carter stated that the U.S. had erred in voting in favour of that resolution and attributed the error to a communications failure between its U.N. delegation and the White House. *The Washington Post* reacted strongly to this episode. Immediately after the vote, the *Post* declared that "It is foolish for any Israeli or any American friend of Israel to think the United States should protect Israel with a Security Council veto on this sort of issue." After Carter's retreat, the *Post* criticised the disavowal of the vote, declaring that:

1980 was a year in which diplomacy prevailed over warfare in the region. The opinion pages and columns of the four papers reflected the regional and international preoccupation with efforts aimed at finding an acceptable solution to the conflict.

"The American retreat at the United Nations was a pathetic performance. The administration marched up the hill, on a Security Council resolution criticising Israel, in a seemingly impoverished, slapdash style that made you wonder if the Secretary of State, supposedly a lawyer's lawyer, had passed the bar. It fell back down the hill in its disavowal of the U.N. vote, in a manner that left onlookers puzzling over whether, as the administration said, there was a failure in communication, or whether there was not an element of deceit as well."

The *Post* went on further to comment on the issue of Israeli settlements, saying:

"The basic problem is of Israel's making: the settlements Israel has been establishing since 1967 in territory taken from the Arabs. The United States has never done more than file formal protest against these settlements. Successive Israeli governments have accepted these slaps on the wrist, and kept on settling. The policy has been creeping annexation in the West Bank, creeping co-optation in Washington."

What probably caused the Carter administration to support that resolution in the first place was the declaration by the Israeli cabinet one month earlier that, as a matter of principle, Jews have a right to settle in the city of Hebron. That action by Israel was seen in Washington as an obstacle to the "autonomy" plan, as envisaged by the Camp David accords. Carter's rotation was criticised by America's allies as giving an impression of political ineptitude, and was widely seen as a surrender to the Jewish lobby by a president needing votes in an election year.

#### Autonomy talks

As the autonomy negotiations between Israel and Egypt continued to show little hope of



"whenever the accumulating evidence indicates a very clear trend one way or the other." The opinion expressed in the press, he added, "alerts officials to public interest, reaction, and interpretation of foreign policy decisions." United States congressmen also depend on press opinion; they read their constituency newspapers for news and opinion concerning their states' affairs but they look elsewhere for foreign policy opinions. In fact, they consider such elite metropolitan dailies as *The New York Times*, and *The Washington Post* as more adequate and more informative sources for that purpose. Moreover, these newspapers are presumed to have a wide and significant audience for their foreign policy editorial opinion.

As noted above, this study provides a picture of the world in general and the Middle East conflict in particular as seen by four leading foreign dailies. If one accepts the hypothesis that the press in a given society may set the agenda for its readers, structuring their world and raising the issues

mission to rescue the U.S. diplomats held captive in Iran; it was the year when two violent earthquakes struck remote villages and towns in Algeria and Italy causing thousands in casualties and untold suffering. During the same year, Mt. Saint Helens, a dormant volcano in southwest Washington state, erupted in a giant blast that devastated a large area. It was also the year of the return of India's Gandhi and Canada's Trudeau to power after decisive wins. In Poland, a national crisis developed as striking workers pressed the ruling Communist Party for political reforms and the right to an independent union. In the U.S., former President Jimmy Carter sought punitive measures against the Soviet Union for its intervention in Afghanistan.

In their editorial essays, all four papers gave prominence to domestic issues such as the state of the economy, national defence, parliamentary news, elections, social issues and other items. *The Times* emphasised in its commentary developments in Europe and the European

Begin, *Le Monde* pointed out, "has nothing to lose... he knows very well that President Carter will not desert him only a few weeks before the presidential elections."

talk about a British initiative engineered by Lord Carrington (now NATO's Secretary General) who, the paper said, "clearly understands now that the West cannot achieve full-hearted cooperation with the Arabs unless it is prepared to take a firmer and clearer line on the Palestinian issue." The editorial then identified the problem in Israel's refusal to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which is seen by Israelis as a terrorist body dedicated to the destruction of their state. "The Palestinians, *The Times* said, "see the PLO (whatever its faults) as the only effective political representation of their nationhood." The paper concluded by stressing the

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# New book says downed Korean jet was not on a spy mission

By Andrew Geller  
Reuter

NEW YORK — Cockpit error — and not a spy mission — led to the tragic downing of a Korean airliner by the Soviet Union in 1983, investigative reporter Seymour Hersh says in a new book based on a two-year inquiry.

In an excerpt from "The Target is Destroyed" to be published next week in the Atlantic monthly magazine, Hersh is also sharply critical of the Reagan administration's handling of the incident, saying it let its anti-Communist feelings run away with it.

The Pulitzer Prize winning reporter says a crew member of Korean Air Lines flight 007 probably programmed the plane's flight computer incorrectly by one digit.

This, he says, caused the Boeing 747 jumbo jet to fly 300 miles off course and stray over Soviet air space where it was shot down by a Soviet jet fighter with the loss of all 269 people on board.

Hersh says the pilot spent five hours socialising with passengers, including a U.S. congressman, on the doomed craft and thus was not

aware it was off course.

He says the Soviets thought the plane was a U.S. reconnaissance aircraft and sharply criticises the Reagan administration for claiming Moscow had knowingly shot down a civilian airliner.

Hersh says that after investigating the incident for two years, he has concluded the plane "was not on an intelligence-gathering mission for the CIA or another agency of the United States or South Korea."

"The destruction of flight 007 had its beginning not in international intrigue but in the ordinary human failings of the Korean Air Lines crew members," he adds.

The Boeing 747 jumbo jet was shot down early on the morning of September 1, 1983, over Sakhalin island in the Far East, an island where the Soviets have a major defence installation.

Hersh charges that President Reagan, Secretary of State George Shultz and Central Intelligence Agency Director William Casey "had initially rushed to judgment over flight 007."

"Their strong hostility to Communism had led them to

conclude, on the basis of the first intelligence, that the Soviets had knowingly shot down a civilian airliner for intruding into their airspace," he says.

He adds: "Shultz, Casey and Reagan chose to look the other way when better information became available about the Soviet confusion of flight 007 with longstanding U.S. reconnaissance missions."

"Those who ran the American government did not want to learn that the Soviets had been honestly confused and panic-stricken about the enemy intruder, and so they continued to believe what they wanted," he says.

A book about the incident published earlier this year by R.W. Johnson, an Oxford University Professor, asserts that flight 007 was on a spying mission as have several other books and articles on the flight.

But Hersh, who travelled to the Soviet Union to research his book, says no, basing his conclusion in part on research by Harold Ewing, a U.S. pilot who has flown the route of flight 007 from Anchorage, down the Pacific north west of Seoul many times. Hersh suggests the Korean jet's

flight engineer, Kim Eui Dong, made a one digit mistake in entering the takeoff position into the plane's flight computer.

The engineer gave the position as W139 degrees longitude instead of W149 degrees and that caused it to fly 300 miles off course, he suggests.

"If the position had been entered as W139 degrees instead of the correct W149 degrees, flight 007's path would have been close to the one actually flown," he says.

Hersh says the error was compounded because the pilot, Chun Byung-In changed the flight to eliminate some checkpoints that would have shown the plane was off course.

He says that after takeoff, the pilot spent the next five hours chatting with passengers, including congressman Larry McDonald, a Georgia Democrat and a leader of the arch-conservative U.S. John Birch Society. "He was not heard from again on the plane's radio," Hersh says of the pilot.

As a result of the error, the plane flew for 25 minutes over the Kamchatka peninsula, where the Soviets have another defence

installation. Soviet fighters were mobilised.

While over Kamchatka, co-pilot Son Dong-Hwin reprogrammed the flight computer for the last part of the flight.

Because of the original programming error, the plane began to turn to the right and the Soviets thought it was trying to take evasive action, Hersh says.

He says the "Scenario — speculative as it may be — melds perfectly with the Korean air flight-path information collected by American intelligence."

In addition, he says, "The Soviet Union, in its public statements and subsequently published maps and charts, depicted flight 007 as making a sharp turn, of more than 50 degrees, to the right... and then turning back toward its original heading."

The jets from Kamchatka could not reach flight 007 before it left Soviet air space, but it was shot down after it flew over Sakhalin, farther south.

Hersh says the Soviets believed the aircraft was a reconnaissance jet that had been taking part in one of two U.S. surveillance

missions, Cobra Ball or Rivet Joint.

He says a Cobra Ball plane had flown near Kamchatka that night and had gone home shortly before the Korean jet began flying over the peninsula.

U.S. intelligence analysts, Hersh says, "believe that the Soviet radar technicians confused the radar track of flight 007 with that of Cobra Ball, and that they assumed from that point on that they were dealing only with another American RC-135 reconnaissance plane."

When the plane reached Sakhalin, the Soviet commander asked for advice from Moscow and was told not to shoot it down until visual identification was made, Hersh says.

But this proved difficult and a Soviet fighter pilot fired four bursts of cannon fire to attract the jet's attention, he says. At that point, the plane had begun a 3,000-foot climb and so probably did not see the cannon fire.

Finally, the fighter pilot fired two missiles, each striking the Korean plane. "The target is destroyed," the pilot reported.



## SABAH TALKS TO BBC

The celebrated singer Sabah talks to the BBC Arabic service in an interview to be broadcast in "Oasis" on Saturday, August 30. Sabah, who was born in Lebanon, is famous throughout the Arab World for her singing. She was in London to appear in a concert at a big London hotel on the occasion of 'Eid Al Adha. In her interview with Salwa Jarrah (left) of the BBC Arabic Service Sabah talks about her recent recordings, about her life and her career in music and in films. Speaking of her personal philosophy, the singer says "I think only of today, that is what is important. Yesterday has already gone and doesn't worry me. Tomorrow is too far away" (BBC photo)

## Kuwaiti royal couple comb globe for Islamic treasures

By Rory Channing  
Reuter

KUWAIT — A young Kuwaiti royal couple have assembled one of the world's finest personal collections of Islamic art in a determined treasure-hunt, from flea markets in Asia to auction houses in Europe.

Spanning 13 centuries and running to over 20,000 pieces, some of them crafted as far apart as Spain and China, the Sabah collection traces the growth of Muslim art from the time the Arabs first began spreading Islam.

"We felt... a mission to bring back the cultural heritage to the Islamic World," Sheikh Hussa Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah told Reuters.

Her husband, Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah, a nephew of Kuwait's emir, developed his passion for Islamic art at school in Jerusalem, she said.

Sheikh Nasser, 39, in one of his own accounts of how the collection took shape, paid tribute to his wife for inspiring him "to translate this vision into reality."

Their first piece — a sentimental favourite — was a 14th century Mamluk enamel-worked glass bottle, bought at the Ahuan Islamic Gallery in London.

Among the treasures they have been collecting since 1975 are rare manuscripts of the holy Koran, Egyptian crystal chess figures, Persian rugs, Ottoman ceramics and jewel-encrusted daggers worn by Moghul emperors.

Since then, the Sabahs have carved a trail through the art world's most elegant showrooms and graced prestigious auction houses. They have a 10 per cent stake in Christie's.

Casting their net far and wide, they have found prizes in unexpected places. A small Mamluk silver pen box caught the eye of Sheikh Nasser in a New Delhi flea market.

They rescued a majestic, 14-foot high pair of 14th century carved wooden doors from a dusty alley in Fez, Morocco, in an area

reported to have faced demolition.

Part of the collection, which Sheikh Hussa describes as priceless, first went on public display at Kuwait's National Museum 3½ years ago.

At the time, Dr. Marilyn Jenkins, an expert with New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, ranked the Sabah collection "with the other great collections of this art in Berlin, Leningrad, London, New York and Paris."

A carved limestone "blind niche" from Greater Syria, dating from the first half of the eighth century is judged by some experts as the gem of the Sabah collection.

It has many rare attractions. The Safavid medallion carpet, of which the collection has a superb example, is thought to have developed from a type seen in Iran in the 15th century of which no known specimens survive.

Outstanding among the legacy of India's 17th and 18th century Moghul emperors are two huge emeralds of 180 and 235 carats — cut and drilled with floral designs — a 530-carat emerald necklace, a dagger overlaid with gold and a scabbard studded with diamonds, rubies and emeralds.

As Islam spread beyond its Arabian birthplace so did the range and variety of its art, embodying a cross-fertilisation of classical Greek, Roman and Chinese influences.

While religious, mythical and regal figures often dominate the art forms of Western and Far Eastern culture, Islamic art ideally is abstract as the Koran forbids idolatry.

Its cohesion owes much to geometric patterns, a feature of the late Greco-Roman tradition, and vegetal designs widely used in pre-Islamic Iran and Roman/Byzantine times.

But scenes of courtly life and the royal sports — hunting, falconry and polo — played a key decorative role under the Fatimids and Egypt and Great Saljuqs in Iran, and left their mark in many admired works of the early medieval Islamic era.

## California wakes up to quake threat

By Louise Kehoe

"The big one," when it happens, could be the worst American disaster since the civil war, experts say. So far, few preparations have been made in the U.S.'s earthquake-prone state.

CALIFORNIANS are beginning to take earthquakes seriously. The extensive damage and death toll in Mexico City's massive quake last year shook up complacent California residents who have always known, but preferred to forget, that they too live in earthquake country.

The state is overdue for the "big one." Minor, though sometimes frightening earthquakes are a way of life with two strong tremors in the past two days alone. But it is 75 years since the infamous San Andreas Fault — a geological stress line that scars the state from north to south — has ruptured.

Over the past few years, however, earthquake activity in California has dramatically increased and experts believe a major earthquake is very likely to occur. Predicting exactly when and where is a lost cause, however. The science of earthquake prediction is just not accurate enough.

California state officials have

therefore turned their attention to preparing for the inevitable. For when it happens, the "great California earthquake" could be the worst disaster in American history since the civil war, according to federal government estimates.

In 1980, a federal emergency management agency study of the potential impact of a major quake in California issued this warning: "The nation is essentially unprepared for the catastrophic earthquake that must be expected in California in the next three decades... with disruption of communications, the social fabric and governmental structure. The impact of such an earthquake would surpass those of any natural disaster thus far experienced by the nation."

Such dire warnings are echoed by assessments of the cost in human and economic terms of a major quake in the San Francisco area. A study published this year by the California Department of Conservation predicts that a major quake — of 7.5 on the Richter Scale — in the San Francisco Bay area would result in between 1,500 and 4,500 deaths, three times that number of serious injuries and 30 times as many minor injuries.

The economic cost was

estimated six years ago as \$44bn in damage to buildings and their contents. Today, the figure is probably closer to \$50bn.

Particularly at risk is the highly populated northern area of San Francisco Bay, the finger of land that has San Francisco at its tip and Silicon Valley at its base. Until recently Silicon Valley companies have done little to address the earthquake threat beyond practising standard earthquake drills as an extension of normal safety policies.

Corporate attitudes have however been given an uncomfortable jolt by the current insurance crisis. The cost of earthquake insurance has risen dramatically, and the liability insurance which companies need to protect themselves from employee, shareholder and third-party law suits is virtually unobtainable.

The only way that companies can protect themselves from the possibility of huge liability claims, for example, by individuals injured during an earthquake while working or visiting a company's premises, is to show that they have taken every reasonable step to safeguard their buildings and the contents.

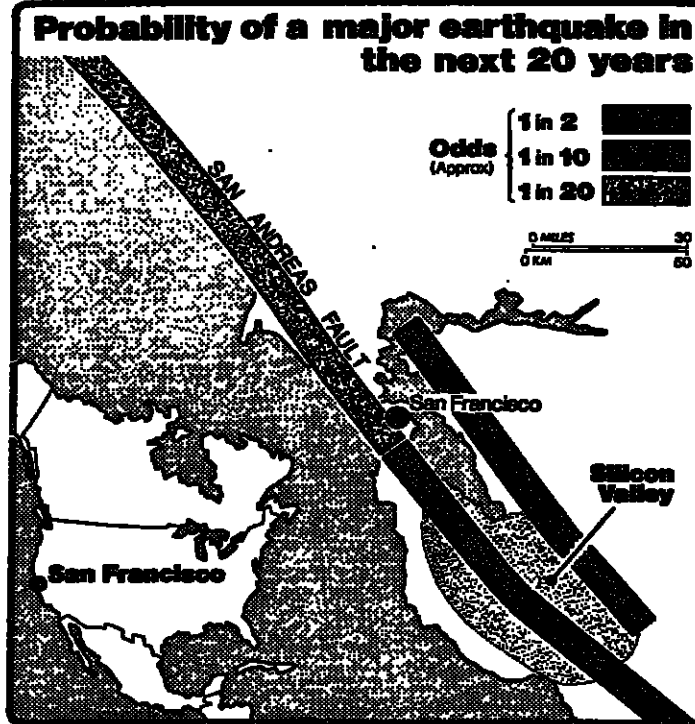
The cost of earthquake preparedness can be very high.

Strengthening a building to withstand a major quake costs about half as much as replacing it.

To date, only a handful of the largest companies in Silicon Valley have undertaken the major structural improvements that most buildings need. IBM, which has a major manufacturing complex in San Jose, was among the first companies to take drastic action. The computer company has spent millions of dollars on upgrading the structural strength of its buildings and securing their contents.

For many companies there are no easy answers. Hundreds of companies on the shores of San Francisco Bay, are built on man-made "landfill" or on land that has been formed over the past 50 or so years by natural silting of the bay. The vast majority of the buildings in these areas are built upon wide concrete slab foundations. Only a few of the largest buildings have been anchored with piles.

Particularly worrying in Silicon Valley are the large number of "tilt-up" buildings constructed in precast concrete and composite materials. According to a recent report by the state seismic safety commission, many of the newer precast structures are "potential collapse hazards." Such buildings



house virtually all of Silicon Valley's electronics and computer companies.

Even a moderately strong earthquake, which is very likely to occur in Silicon Valley, poses major potential problems. Although a quake of 5-6 on the Richter scale might not collapse

buildings, it could be expected to play havoc with their contents.

Particularly vulnerable are the mainframe computers that hold data critical to the operation of businesses. The specially designed rooms that house computers typically have false floors.

— Financial Times.

## Leading Western newspapers reflect official line towards Mideast

(Continued from page 4)

success, the countries of the EC began to look for new alternatives to break the deadlock. One idea that received support was the proposal that U.N. Resolution 242 be broadened in order to include a reference to the right of self-determination for the Palestinians. The United States expressed its disapproval of Europe's attempts to intervene in the peace process. But, despite the opposition from the U.S., Israel and even Egypt, the EC countries produced a Middle East policy statement at a meeting in Venice on June 13 which became known as the Venice Declaration. For the first time, the EC countries endorsed the idea that the Palestinian people must be allowed to "exercise fully its rights to self-determination," calling for the PLO "to be associated with the negotiations." The EC statement further condemned Israel's settlement policy and rejected any change in the status of occupied Jerusalem. In an editorial on March 11 *The Times* supported British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's position on the subject which, *The Times* said, supported the call for self-determination. "But," the paper said, "the quid pro quo must be that the PLO and the Palestinian people recognise Israel's right to exist within secure borders."

In its editorial on June 15, *Le Monde* expressed its opinion that the EC declaration "certainly does not constitute a great step forward as compared with the French position." *Le Monde* also emphasised that the main notion of the Venice Declaration was the simultaneous recognition by Israel and Palestinians of each other's existence and rights.

The *Post*, on the other hand, had some harsh words for the EC countries. Echoing the official line, it accused the Europeans of "intense meddling" in Middle East affairs. The *Post* charged that the initiative was sponsored by "allies spinelessly begging for Arab oil favour." The newspaper said the Camp David peace process was the only viable option for Middle East peace negotiations and cautioned the Carter administration not to abandon such a process because it said "to abandon his chosen policy now in frustration would make the

U.S. look like France or Britain, countries whose Middle East views flow from an Arab oil tap." "No American president," the *Post* concluded, "has the luxury of such irresponsibility."

### Israeli terror

Another occasion for editorial comment arose when, on June 2, 1980, Jewish extremists placed bombs in the cars of three West Bank mayors, seriously wounding two of them. Bassam Shakaa, the Mayor of Nablus, lost his legs in the explosion. The action revealed the existence of a militant underground movement among the Jewish settlers in the West Bank. During the following weeks, this movement issued threats to Arabs and moderate Israelis. Mayor Shakaa and other prominent Palestinians accused the Israeli government of complicity with the extremists.

In an editorial entitled "A Dangerous Turn," *Le Monde* put the blame on Prime Minister Menachem Begin's policies in the occupied territories. *Le Monde* wrote:

"Mr. Begin cannot escape his responsibilities. After his arrival to power two and a half years ago, he made everything possible to discourage those who believe in a negotiated settlement, which is capable of putting an end to the occupation. He has multiplied the number of settlements constructed in the heart of the West Bank, hoping to create 'fait accompli' which will render the status quo irreversible and impede the eventual creation of a Palestinian state. He has always contested the Arab and Palestinian character of the West Bank, affirming that Israelis must have the right to settle anywhere in 'Judea and Samaria.' Those responsible for Monday's attacks wanted to make this 'right' prevail."

The *London Times* equally blamed the Begin government for the circumstances leading to the attack, accusing it of a double standard in its treatment of Arabs. *The Times* wrote:

"...While Arab violence against the (Jewish) settlers is immediately met with draconian collective punishments and administrative deportation of local leaders, without even the shadow of legal process, violence by the settlers against Arabs — an increasingly common

phenomenon in recent months — is not followed by any convincing effort to apprehend or punish the culprits."

### Status of Jerusalem

The introduction in the Knesset of a bill which aimed at proclaiming Jerusalem as Israel's indivisible capital which automatically results in its annexation of Arab East

According to Evans, whenever he saw an editorial written by either Mortimer or Owen which he considered soft on the PLO, he would either edit it or "strengthen" its line to include more critical language of the PLO.

Jerusalem was a matter of concern for *Il Corriere Della Sera*. It wrote on February 8:

"The least that could be said is that the unilateral decision (to annex East Jerusalem) aggravates tension in the Middle East region. It primarily offends the religious sentiments of Muslims (but also that of Christians)... and risks inflaming the passions of those who obey their faiths... Jerusalem is a city for which the followers of the three monotheistic religions have a special symbolic and sacred significance."

On July 29, 1980, the United Nations' General Assembly approved an Arab-sponsored resolution calling for the establishment of a Palestinian state and Israeli withdrawal from all the post-1967 occupied territories, including East Jerusalem. Israel's Knesset responded to this resolution by enacting a law reaffirming Jerusalem as the state's capital. The latter move was characterised by the *Washington Post* as a "heated and foolish response." "Like the U.N. resolution," the *Post* wrote, "the new Israeli bill is inflammatory and unhelpful." On the other hand, the *Post* noted that, while calling for Israel to withdraw from Arab lands, the resolution adopted by the United Nations offered Israel "not negotiations, not recognition, not agreed borders, not security, not peace, not even the right of existence: nothing."

In the same editorial, the *Post*

stressed the importance of the Camp David process which, the paper wrote, offered a better chance of success than either the United Nations resolution or the Israeli bill. The *Post* went on to say:

"No one should sell short a diplomatic instrument that has at least three immense achievements to its credit: the first peace between Israel and an Arab neighbour, the drastic reduction in the possibility of another general Arab-Israeli war, and the propelling of the question of Arab-Israeli relations to the centre of public discussion throughout the region, most of all in Israel. As imperfect as Camp David is, there is no conceivable alternative to it."

In sum, 1980 was a year in which diplomacy prevailed over warfare in the region. The opinion pages and columns of the four papers reflected the regional and international preoccupation with efforts aimed at finding an acceptable solution to the conflict. On the Israeli-Egyptian front, despite the festivities accompanying the first exchange of ambassadors between Israel and an Arab state, there was an atmosphere of frustration, especially in Cairo. The Egyptian negotiators were unable to extract any concessions from the Israelis on the question of Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories.

Meanwhile, on the West Bank Israel continued to increase the number of settlements built on expropriated Arab lands. That policy was a clear departure from Israel's commitments under the Camp David peace accords which stated that the future of the occupied territories would be determined by its Palestinian inhabitants. Both Mr. Begin and his right-wing Likud coalition made it clear during that year that they would continue with their plans to irreversibly link the West Bank with Israel. This policy was carried out by several steps, including selling to Jewish settlers Arab lands confiscated under the guise of security. Moreover, Israeli occupation authorities took several measures to ensure that West Bankers remained without an effective national leadership. They also tightened their control over Palestinian universities and other academic institutions. These and other developments

were only marginally covered in the four newspapers during 1980. Only *The Times* gave details of the West Bank situation and commented on it. In its editorials, *The Times* made a clear distinction between the Palestinians and the PLO. The former, the paper stressed, was not to be blamed for the actions of the latter. The papers most critical of Israel were *Le Monde* and *Corriere*. The *Post* was, by and large, more apologetic of Israeli actions than the other papers.

In his book, "Good Times, Bad Times," Harold Evans, former editor of *The Sunday Times* and *The Times* provides a unique view of the editorial policy of *The Times* during his editorship. He discusses, for example, the range of views which characterised editorial discussion of the paper's line regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict. Admittedly, this issue proved to be the most divisive among the group's members.

Evans describes how the group of editorial writers held two opposing viewpoints concerning the conflict. On the one hand, two editorial writers — Edward Mortimer and Richard Owen — supported the policy of the European Community and the Venice Declaration of June 1980. The second camp consisted of Evans' assistant editor Bernard Donoghue and Brian Horton, the paper's foreign editor. The view held by this group was not explained clearly by Evans, although it generally supported the Israeli position that the PLO was not to be trusted in any negotiations because of its desire to "establish Palestine in the place of Israel." The internal manoeuvres of the two camps were described by Evans:

"The Jordan flowed through the Times conference room as Lady Eden once said the Suez Canal flowed through her drawing room. Horton and Donoghue were as passionate on the Israeli side as Mortimer and Owen on the Arab. The first two focused on a democratic state surrounded by enemies who would not acknowledge her right to exist. The others focused on a dispossessed Palestinian people for whom the PLO was the recognised voice. Douglas Home was with Owen and Mortimer. As foreign editor, he had organised a series on the Palestinians which enraged the Jewish lobby in

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## West Ham sinks Manchester United

LONDON (AP) — Frank McAvennie's second goal of the game with nine minutes remaining gave West Ham a 3-2 victory over Manchester United in the highlight of a bank holiday programme of English League soccer Monday.

McAvennie, a member of Scotland's national team, opened the scoring with a goal just 36 seconds into the match, played at Manchester. It was the fastest goal of the First Division season, which began Saturday.

The loss was the second in two games this season for Manchester United, which started last season with 10 consecutive victories.

The West Ham victory was the only one in five First Division matches, all played in heavy rain as the tail end of hurricane Charley lashed England.

Defending league and F.A. Cup champion Liverpool was tied at home by Manchester City 0-0.

Everton, the runner-up in both League and Cup play last season, drew at Sheffield Wednesday 2-2.

Oxford United gained a home-field tie with Chelsea, 1-1, while Tottenham also drew at home, 1-1, with Newcastle United.

After the Liverpool-Manchester City game had ended, Ian Rush, the champions' star striker who has signed £3 million contract with Italy's Juventus beginning next season, was sent off for cursing at the referee.

As the players marched into the tunnel after the final whistle, referee Ken Walsley took out his book and gestured to Rush. "I sent him off for a comment he made to me," Walsley said.

Kenny Dalglish, Liverpool's player-manager, said he had been told that Rush "will be reported for using foul and abusive language."

Rush, who scored both goals on Liverpool's season-opening 2-0 victory at Newcastle, declined to comment.

### Manchester United, West Ham

A low ball from Alan Dickens on the right gave Frank McAvennie the avenue he needed in the opening minute of play against Manchester United, and he slotted the shot past Chris Turner for the early West Ham lead.

The Hammers moved to a two-goal lead in the 38th minute when Alan Devonshire lobbed over Turner, after Mike Duxbury slipped up.

Frank Stapleton pulled a goal back in the 59th minute, heading in Colin Gibson's left wing cross, and a minute after intermission

Stapleton netted the equaliser in a goalmouth melee. But McAvennie got the winner at 82 minutes when he headed in a Mark Ward cross.

### Liverpool, Manchester

Manchester City's defence kept the dangerous duo of Kenny Dalglish and Ian Rush scoreless at Anfield.

The best chances in the first half went to Liverpool's Steve McMahon, but he was unable to convert and eventually was lifted for a substitute in the 75th minute.

City's Trevor Christie also missed on a pair of chances in the early minutes. But the shots got fewer for Manchester as Liverpool increased the defensive pressure, and in the 76th minute Dalglish sent a corner that Mark Lawrenson flicked with a back-header before Craig Johnston sent it over the crossbar with a spectacular.

### Sheffield, Everton

David Hirst, a teen-ager who signed with Sheffield for £200,000, put his team in front when he scored a minute after being inserted as a substitute at 62 minutes.

But seven minutes later, Kevin Langley fired a low shot that struck a defender and went into the Sheffield net to tie the score 2-2.

Sheffield opened the scoring when Carl Shutt turned in Glynn Snodin's miss-hit at the 12-minute mark. Everton matched it at 57 minutes when Graeme Sharpe turned a low cross into the home team net.

### Tottenham, Newcastle

Peter Beardsley slipped a shot past Tottenham goalkeeper Ray Clemence three minutes from the end to lift Newcastle to a draw at White Hart Lane.

The Spurs, who won their opener 3-0 over Aston Villa, had plenty of scoring chances against Newcastle. But the only one they could convert was Clive Allen's shot off a left-foot cross from Chris Waddle in the second minute of injury time.

Allen has scored all four of the Spurs' goals this season.

### Oxford United, Chelsea

Defender Gary Briggs scored his first League goal in more than a year in the 52nd minute to give Oxford a tie with Chelsea. Goalkeeper Tony Godden failed to cut down a free kick by Dave Langan and Briggs headed it in at the far post.

Chelsea took a 1-0 lead in the 35th minute when David Speedie sent in a corner kick from Gordon Durie with a diving header.

## Italian ready to record 5th 10,000m triumph

STUTTGART, West Germany (AP) — Alberto Cova plans to carry his magic winning touch into its fifth season with yet another gold medal in the men's 10,000 metres this week, at the European track and field championships in this West German city.

"I feel absolutely no pressure. I am as cool as ever, and I am extremely confident. This has been a good year for me," the Italian star said here Monday. "I have planned my season with great precision. I have had no setbacks nor injuries, and now I have just to go out and win."

Cova has won every major 10,000 metres race in the past five years: At the 1982 European championships in Athens, the 1983 world championship in Helsinki, the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984 and the European Cup final last year.

"I don't care whether our race is a tough one or just tactical. I am prepared for both. I'd prefer a strong pace early to cut down the field and to have good chances of setting my personal best on the distance," Cova said. "But if it is a tactical race, I can impose my final kick. I have been doing 51 seconds for the final lap and I feel it is good enough to win."

Cova said, however, there were many competitors who did not have a strong kick and this is why he felt they would go out early in the race at the Neckar stadium to thin the field. He said they had no other option, if they wanted a medal.

"It doesn't bother me to be considered the heavy favourite in my races," the 27-year-old Italian said. "On the contrary, it builds up

my confidence and it gives me an extra drive."

"I try to psych myself up for my races, and I generally succeed in this. It requires a combination of strong physical training and great concentration. One day I may decide to change, but so far I am pleased with things and I expect to keep on going at least until the 1988 Olympics in Seoul."

He said he considered two veterans, Martti Vainio of Finland and Hansjorg Kunze of East Germany, his strongest competitors. Kunze has clocked the fastest time this year for the 10,000, but Cova said it was Vainio, 35, the man he feared most.

Meanwhile, Soviet world record holder Natalia Lisovskaya seeks to fulfil a dream by winning her first medal.

The women's shot is one of four events and Lisovskaya plans to mount the victory rostrum to fill a gap in her career.

Though only 24 she has dominated the event in recent years without ever gaining a major medal. Her 1984 world record of 22.53 metres still stands and she also has the best distance of the year of 21.70.

But she could only place fifth in the 1983 world championships in Helsinki and was forced to miss the Los Angeles Olympics the following year because of the Soviet Bloc boycott.

A European title would fit the bill nicely though she must defeat veteran world champion Helena Fibingerova of Czechoslovakia and Olympic champion Claudia Losch of West Germany.

## Lendl, Becker head tennis entries for Australian games

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Wimbledon champion Boris Becker and U.S. Open champion Ivan Lendl head the entries for next month's Australian indoor tennis championships, promoter Graham Lovett confirmed Tuesday.

World No. 1 Lendl, from Czechoslovakia, will be to the top seed for the event, which will be held at the Sydney Entertainment Centre Oct. 13-19.

Former French and Australian Open champion Mats Wilander of Sweden will be the no. 2 seed, ahead of West German teenager Becker.

Other players to have already confirmed their entries are Jimmy Connors of the United States, Joakim Nyström of Sweden, Henri Leconte of France and Andrei Gorn of Ecuador, all ranked in the world top 10.

Lendl has earlier refused to play on the Czechoslovak Davis Cup team that faces Sweden in October, non-playing captain Jan Kodes said Tuesday in Prague.

"I spoke with Lendl, asked him to join the team," Kodes told reporters. "He replied he cannot. He said formalities he applied for were not settled in time and now he has another programme."

Lendl has not played on the Czechoslovak team since October 1985 in Frankfurt, where he pulled out of the singles and played the doubles only reluctantly, claiming an elbow injury.

West Germany crushed Czechoslovakia 0-5, but within a week Lendl won an exhibition tournament in East Rutherford, New Jersey, defeating Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe.

## Exciting 11th world title chess game ends in draw

LONDON (R) — The 11th game of the world chess championship between challenger Anatoly Karpov and champion Garry Kasparov ended in a draw Monday night after a fierce struggle which most experts rated the best contest in the event so far.

Both players made great efforts to win the game which featured wild complications. After surviving what looked like a dangerous attack, Kasparov held a tiny edge in the endgame but drew after 41 moves.

Despite a sharp surprise in the opening, Kasparov defended his position resourcefully and actively, with both players spurning chances of an early draw.

Karpov sacrificed a knight to expose his opponent's king but Kasparov had accurately calculated the consequences.

The champion returned his extra material to put an end to Karpov's ambitions of a winning attack.

From the reactions of the two players it was evident that both were surprised several times by the other's inventiveness but both managed to avoid time penalties. When the complications finally

cleared, Kasparov had the tiny advantage of knight versus bishop in an endgame but it did not prove enough.

Many experts said the game deserved the £10,000 (\$15,000) brilliancy prize being offered by a British investment firm for the London half of the match.

Grandmaster Maxim Dlugy of the United States said simply: "It was the best game of the match."

The draw allowed Kasparov to retain his one-point edge in the 24-game series. He now leads by a score of six points to Karpov's five.

Since a 12-12 tie is sufficient for him to retain the title he is considered a strong favourite.

Kasparov has the advantage of the white pieces in seven of the 13 remaining games.

The next game will be the final one in London with the venue transferring to Leningrad one week after the 12th game.

Victory in the 24-game series goes to the first player to win six games or 12½ points.

The next game is scheduled for Wednesday, with Kasparov playing white.

## Record 61 nations to compete in world cycling championships

COLORADO SPRINGS (R) — The rarefied air of the Rocky Mountains, a fast track and the presence of more than 700 riders from a record 61 nations should ensure a number of outstanding performances in the world cycling championships starting Wednesday.

The only trace of any political problems, which kept the Soviet Union and most of the Eastern Bloc out of the 1984 Olympics, saw Cuba's withdrawal because of U.S. restrictions preventing team members from taking home any cash prizes.

The U.S., hosting the annual championships for the first time since 1912, are expected to make a stronger showing than in the past because many riders are accustomed to the oxygen-draining atmosphere of the Olympic training centre here. "We're on our home ground."

Just ask the Boston Celtics how much difference that makes," said Dave Prouty, director of the U.S. Cycling Federation in a reference to the National Basketball Association champions, who lost just once in Boston last season. "That's not to say we're going to win a lot of medals, because we're facing stiff competition."

Despite the confidence in the home camp, which started a cycling resurgence in the U.S. by winning nine medals in Los Angeles, the sport's traditional powers are expected to dominate again this year.

The Russians, East Germans and Czechoslovaks are all but unmatched in the amateur races, and the Western Europeans and Japanese are strongest in the men's professional events.

The first 12 events of the championships start.

## Crashes mark British street race

BIRMINGHAM, England (AP) — Luis Sala of Spain won the rain-shortened Birmingham super prix formula 3000 race Monday when organisers stopped the contest at the halfway point after several minor crashes and drivers' complaints of poor conditions.

After starting late because of downpours, the remnants of hurricane Charley, the race lasted

just 25 laps of the 2½ mile street circuit before stewards decided conditions were unsafe. The decision followed a collision between the cars of England's Andrew Gilbert-Scott and France's Alain Ferte.

Neither driver was hurt, but Gilbert-Scott, driving a Lola-Cosworth, said the track conditions were the worst he had

ever encountered and that it had been irresponsible to begin the race in the first place.

"It seems to me that all they (the organisers) were waiting for was a big shunt or for someone to get hurt before they stopped it," he said.

Officials said they sold about 50,000 tickets for the race, about half the number the Birmingham city council said it needed to break even on its £15 million (\$25 million) investment.

## Cuba may boycott '88 Olympics in S. Korea

STUTTGART, West Germany (R) — Cuba will boycott the 1988 summer Olympic games in Seoul if North Korea is not allowed to stage the games jointly, former Cuban athlete Alberto Juantorena said Monday.

Juantorena, in Stuttgart as Cuban delegate to the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) congress, told Reuters: "We want to have the Olympic games in North Korea too."

"If the discussions between South and North Korea about sharing the games do not succeed, we will definitely not be going. But naturally we hope they will succeed."

Juantorena, who won gold medals over 400 and 800 metres at the 1976 Olympics, said Cuba considered Korea to be a single country.

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Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

**RESTAURANT CHINA**

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahilyah Girls School  
Take away is available  
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.  
6:30 - Midnight  
Tel: 638968

**CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT**  
Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbeque for lunch and dinner FRIDAY

Tel: 818214  
Come and taste our specialties  
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.  
6:30 - Midnight

**CHINESE RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISMO**  
Authentic Chinese food  
Friendly service  
Convenient location  
Also take-away service

Open daily: Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight  
Location: Near 3rd Circle, opposite to Akilah Hospital  
Tel: 641093

**CHINA RESTAURANT**  
NEXT TO GRINDLAYS BANK

Take away service available

Open daily 11:30 - 3:30 and 6:30 - 11:00

**AQABA**  
Tel: 03-314415

**慕堂餐廳 MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant**

The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.  
Fully Airconditioned

Take away available  
Open daily 12:00 - 15:30  
18:00 - 23:30

Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge  
Amman, Jordan  
Tel: 661922

**ZORFU GREEK TAVERNA**  
The First and Only Greek Restaurant in Jordan

- FULL GREEK MENU
- GREEK MUSIC AND ATMOSPHERE
- PARTIES AND WEDDINGS (GUEST STYLE)
- PLUS SELECTED FRENCH DISHES
- TAKE AWAY SERVICE

Closed on Friday  
TEL: 641585

**Cinema CONCORD**  
Tel: 677420

**THE COLOR PURPLE**

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

**Cinema RAINBOW**  
Tel: 625155

**THE MAN WITH ONERED SHOE**

**Cinema OPERA**  
Tel: 675573

**CHOOSE ME**

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

**Cine Theatre Philadelphia**  
Tel: 634144, 634149

**KARATE KID PART II**

Performances: 3:30, 8:30, 10:45

**Cinema RAGHADAN**  
Tel: 622198

**THE PRETTY LADY AND THE STUDENTS**

Performances: 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45



## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4817/27	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3940/45	Canadian dollars
	2.0415/55	West German marks
	2.3075/85	Dutch guilders
	1.6467/77	Swiss francs
	42.31/36	Belgian francs
	6.6975/7025	French francs
	1409/1410	Italian lire
	154.10/20	Japanese yen
	6.9000/50	Swedish crowns
	7.3175/225	Norwegian crowns
	7.7300/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	380.00/380.50	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices ended quietly steady but with a firmer bias after a hesitant opening. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was 6.3 up at 1,613.4.

Dealers said the day's low trading activity showed that the market was starved of fresh influences after last week's consolidation of substantial gains made in the opening leg of the long three-week advance.

Dealers added Wall Street's higher opening gave further support to the underlying firm tone.

ICI rose 8p to 1,012, Vickers 7p to 405, BICC 4p to 275 and Glaxo 5p to 955. British Aerospace rose 13p to 511 on expectations of good orders at the forthcoming Farnborough air show, dealers said. Among the stocks to decline, BTR shed 3p to 285, Lucas 6p to 525 and Rowatree Macintosh 8p to 375.

Oils firmed mainly in response to the strength in the crude oil prices, dealers said. Brent for September delivery was quoted at \$14.15/\$14.25 per barrel at 1435 GMT. Shell rose 13p to 898, Britoil added 5p to 133, and B.P. gained 10p to 650. Earlier press reports said the latter is to increase its U.K. petrol prices by 5p per gallon from midnight.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WED., AUGUST 27, 1986

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A day when you are apt to be as nervous and restless as those about you. Find a plan and carry it through to its logical conclusion. This brings accomplishment.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Plan your time and activities wisely so that you do not take on more than you can comfortably achieve.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Be sure you are diplomatic in conversations with others. Listen to advice that is given and study it.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Use care in whatever work you do so that you will not have to do it again. Curb your temper with friends.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** You hardly know where to begin since you have many personal tasks, but carry through.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21)** If you do not schedule your activities wisely you can meet with much opposition. An acquaintance could cause trouble.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Make sure you follow directives wisely otherwise you will have trouble handling outside affairs that are vital.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Be sure you analyze the situation carefully before you make the changes you have in mind. Don't jump.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Don't get into an argument with one in business. Keep your word to your mate even though you don't want to.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Not a good day to try to get your points across to others in the business world. Take it easy.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** You may have to make changes in work routines but it is best to go along with them now.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** You want to have fun today and this is fine provided you do not spend more than you can afford.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Study the moods and wishes of those who dwell with you. If guests are invited in, avoid controversial topics.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ...** he or she will be able to coordinate mental and physical abilities well. Your progeny could tackle just about anything and handle it very well. The interests will be numerous here, but teach to specialize and to complete whatever has been started.

## Japan admits end to recovery

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government acknowledged Tuesday what bankers and businessmen had been telling it for months: The country's economic recovery has ended.

The admission, contained in the monthly report issued by the Economic Planning Agency, was likely to increase domestic and overseas pressure on the government to boost the economy.

Tokyo had previously insisted that Japan's recovery was continuing, although it admitted that growth was slowing under the impact of the strong yen.

The Economic Planning Agency dropped any reference in its report to a continuing expansion or recovery. Officials said this was done deliberately to indicate that the government had become more gloomy about the economy.

Although economic activity might not grind to a complete halt, growth would be so slow that it would be impossible to talk of a recovery, they said.

"Because of the sharp rise, the business outlook in the manufacturing industry is stagnant," the agency said in its report. "Exports are slowing further and industrial production has remained weak."

It was not totally pessimistic, noting that consumer spending had remained steady. "The economy has some steadiness but its pace of growth is moderate," it said.

Unlike some private economists, Economic Planning Agency officials said they did not believe the economy was on the verge of recession although they admitted that growth for the rest of the year was likely to be slow.

Japan's economy contracted by a half per cent in the first three months of 1986, the first quarter-on-quarter drop for 11 years.

Bank and government economists said growth picked up in the second quarter, but not by much. The planning agency is due to announce the second quarter figures in the middle of next month.

The government has already begun to draw up a package of measures to boost the economy.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Economic Planning Agency chief, Mr. Tesuo Kondo, told the cabinet Tuesday that he hoped to announce the measures on Sept. 19.

Mr. Miyazawa told reporters the package would probably include a supplementary government budget.

Some bank economists think it will also include a cut in interest rates, largely in response to U.S. pressure. America cut its interest rates last week and admonished both Japan and West Germany for not doing likewise.

EC to impose duties on Japanese photocopyers

Meanwhile, the European Community (EC) has decided to impose duties on Japanese photocopyers it said were being dumped on the European market at artificially low prices, the EC's executive commission said Monday.

The move to introduce provisional duties heralded one of the biggest anti-dumping actions the group has mounted, European Commission officials said.

EC foreign ministers decided last month to put new pressure on Japan over its trade practices.

Japanese producers have an 85-per-cent share of the European photocopy market, which is worth more than \$1 billion a year, European Commission officials said.

The Commission said it would impose a 15.8 per cent duty on most imports of Japanese photocopyers using plain paper, with the exception of high-volume machines. The measure will come into force on Wednesday.

A Commission statement said the decision followed investigations last year which showed Japanese makers were seriously damaging EC producers by selling plain paper copiers on the EC market at well below their normal value in Japan.

Iran, USSR to cooperate in oil and gas exploitation

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran will begin exploiting oil and gas deposits on the southern coast of the Caspian Sea in "the near future," Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Tuesday.

The issue was discussed during last week's visit to Moscow by Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Azadeh, when it was agreed the Soviet Union would provide technical assistance for the project, added the agency.

IRNA pointed out that the Soviet Union has been pumping some 200,000 barrels of oil and substantial quantities of gas per day from the northern and central sectors of the Caspian Sea.

Activities on the Iranian shoreline of the inland sea have been limited to oil exploration and this has shown that there are large reserves of both oil and gas in the region, the agency said.

It added that the exploitation of these reserves would change the economic profile of the Caspian Sea area. According to oil experts even a small oil well in the area could yield an annual income of 200 million rials (\$2.5 million).

A team of Iranian oil experts is to travel to Moscow next month to discuss details of the Soviet cooperation in the project, IRNA reported.

The agency said that "if everything goes well" exploration and exploitation activities could begin "in the near future."

No final decision has been reached on cooperation with the Soviet Union, but it is expected one of the following three options will be picked: Purchase or lease of equipment or a cooperation contract.

The announcement of Caspian oil exploitation with Soviet help follows Monday's announcement that Iran is to resume natural gas deliveries to the Soviet Union.

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It said most of the 12 Japanese producers exporting to Europe had priced their machines at between 20 and 45 per cent below their value at home, with one small producer, Kyocera, as much as 69 per cent lower.

EC photocopy makers have seen their share of the Community market dwindle to 15 per cent from 20 per cent five years ago as the Japanese boosted photocopy exports to the EC from 272,000 in 1981 to around 600,000 last year, the Commission said.

They have also seen profits decline due to depressed prices and price undercutting by the Japanese, the authority said.

It said the need to maintain EC producers' viability far outweighed any price increases caused by the new duties.

But one commission source, describing the duty as "not large," said the measure was not expected to have much impact on prices in the short term since the Japanese were likely to absorb the cost themselves rather than pass it on to customers.

Last year's investigation, which followed a complaint by the Committee of European Copier Manufacturers (CECOM) on behalf of five EC makers, was carried out with the cooperation of the Japanese producers — including leading names such as Canon, Minolta, Toshiba and Sharp.

The commission will hold talks with the Japanese companies before reviewing the provisional measure and deciding whether to submit proposals for definitive action to EC ministers.

The Japanese can appeal against the measures to the European Court, as they have over duties on electronic typewriters.

The action on photocopyers is the second since Community foreign ministers decided in July to complain formally to Tokyo that it had failed to open its markets to EC goods and asked the Commission to start anti-dumping procedures where Japanese firms were believed to violate free trade rules.

Coffee prices hit new high

LONDON (R) — Coffee prices rose sharply again on the London market Tuesday, hitting a four-month high, as traders returned from a long holiday weekend with a forecast of a much-reduced Brazilian crop fresh in their minds.

The Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC) last week put the 1986-87 crop of the world's biggest producer at just 11.2 million bags, following a drought. This would be 25 per cent down on the previous estimate made three months ago.

Coffee futures for delivery in November were trading around \$2.270 (\$3.360) a tonne Tuesday, at the highest levels in 16 weeks and showing gains of almost £100 (\$148) a tonne from pre-weekend prices, dealers said.

Dealers said firm prices Monday in New York and speculative buying underpinned the upward trend.

## Agricultural states criticise U.S., EC subsidised sales

CAIRNS, Australia (R) — Fourteen nations which export agricultural produce said Tuesday that subsidised sales and barriers against imports by the United States and European Community (EC) were creating political instability.

Delegates from the nations, which together account for nearly a quarter of the world's agricultural exports, told a conference on trade that U.S. and EC agricultural policies were straining alliances and could lead to great resentment.

Argentina, one of five Latin American countries represented, said its fledgling democracy was threatened by the damage to its farming sector.

"Our creditor countries which are symbols of freedom and democracy do not understand that, in order to strengthen democracies in developing countries, economic growth is essential and that agricultural growth is a key," said Argentina's secretary of state for agriculture, Mr. Lucio Rea.

He said the policies of the major industrialised countries had created a world agricultural crisis of over-supply and low prices.

The countries represented at the three-day meeting were Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Fiji, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and Uruguay.

Its tone was set Monday night by Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, who is locked in a row with Washington over its proposal to sell four million tonnes of cut-price wheat to the Soviet Union, one of Australia's major customers.

Mr. Hawke accused Mr. Reagan, who is under domestic pressure to authorise other

subsidies, of seeking short-term political gain. Australia is also angry at subsidised U.S. sugar exports to China.

The talks in the northeast Australian town of Cairns were likely to agree on a need to promote liberalisation of agricultural trade at multinational trade negotiations next month in Uruguay.

The ministerial meeting in Punta Del Este should launch an eighth round of talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The Cairns talks, called fair traders in agriculture, are the first of their kind in the run-up to the expected GATT round.

The 14 nations, which include major wheat exporters in Australia, Argentina and Canada, want agricultural produce to be given similar status to manufactured goods in the GATT negotiations.

"We have to point out to our friends that there are great costs for them and for global security and... stability if they do nothing," said New Zealand's Overseas Trade Minister Mike Moore.

"The cost of doing nothing will bring some democracies to their knees," he said.

Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, echoing the plight of many countries, said the prices of his nation's primary export had dropped between 30 and 40 per cent in the last year.

U.S., EC and Japanese observers at the talks warned non-subsidising countries not to

adopt an aggressive stance at the talks in Uruguay.

"It is illogical to assign blame to just a few countries," said Mr. Thomas Forbord, U.S. economic counsellor in Australia.

He said the United States was seeking negotiations to address all issues affecting agricultural trade.

Mr. Ove Juul Jorgensen, head of an EC delegation, said the EC did not think confrontation would improve the international trade environment.

"Contrary to what some believe, the Community has supported the inclusion of agriculture in the new (GATT) round," he told the conference.

Lugar sees issue as emotional

In Canberra, U.S. Senator Richard Lugar said that both Australia and the United States had reacted too emotionally over the issue of subsidised U.S. agricultural exports and said the real problem was over-supply.

Mr. Lugar, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told reporters he understood opposition to subsidised U.S. wheat sales to countries that are also Australian markets, but stressed it should not erode ties between the two countries.

"All of us have been emotional. Our problem now is to get over being upset with each other," he said.

"I would hope (Hawke) is opposed to getting into attacks on integrity when we simply should be working to attack the problem, which is an oversupply of wheat," Mr. Lugar said.

The 14 countries were expected to release a joint communique Wednesday at the end of their talks in Cairns.

## 'Financial sanctions' may harm more, top S. African banker says

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (Agencies) — The flight of capital and the refusal of foreign banks to extend loans could harm South Africa's economy more than punitive trade sanctions, the head of the South African Reserve Bank said Tuesday.

The bank's governor, Mr. Gerhard De Kock, described the abrupt withdrawal last year by international banks of credit lines to South Africa as a form of "financial sanctions" and said capital flight has continued this year despite tough new exchange controls.

"The politically induced pressure on the capital account of the balance of payments is affecting the South African economy more adversely than trade sanctions are likely to do," Mr. De Kock said in his annual address to the bank's stock holders.

"It implies some combination of a weaker exchange rate, a higher level of interest rates, a higher inflation rate and a lower level of economic growth than would otherwise have prevailed," he

noted.

Mr. De Kock said 9.2 billion rand (\$3.68 billion) flowed out of South Africa during 1985 and a further 2.6 billion rand (\$1.04 billion) was drained from the country in the first half of this year, excluding foreign debt repayments.

The refusal of foreign banks to roll over loans to South Africa in July last year prompted Pretoria to declare a moratorium on most repayments of principal on its estimated \$24 billion in foreign debt and later to negotiate an interim agreement with creditor banks to make only limited repayments this year.

The director-general of finance, Mr. Chris Stals, said in June that South Africa had repaid about \$2 billion of the \$2.5 billion due this year.

Commenting on trade sanctions, South Africa said Tuesday its vast mineral wealth was a potentially powerful weapon in the battle against international sanctions but was not one that should be used lightly.

State-run Radio South Africa said the country was a key supplier of manganese, vanadium, platinum and chromium, vital to the West's defence and industry.

"If there were to be a total cut-off supplies of these and other critical minerals and metals found in abundance in South Africa, no Western industrial country would be able to sustain present levels of economic and technological progress or to uphold present military and defence capabilities," the radio warned in a daily commentary which reflects government views.

It said the "minerals weapon" was a potentially powerful arm in the economic war that certain countries were preparing to wage against South Africa through sanctions.

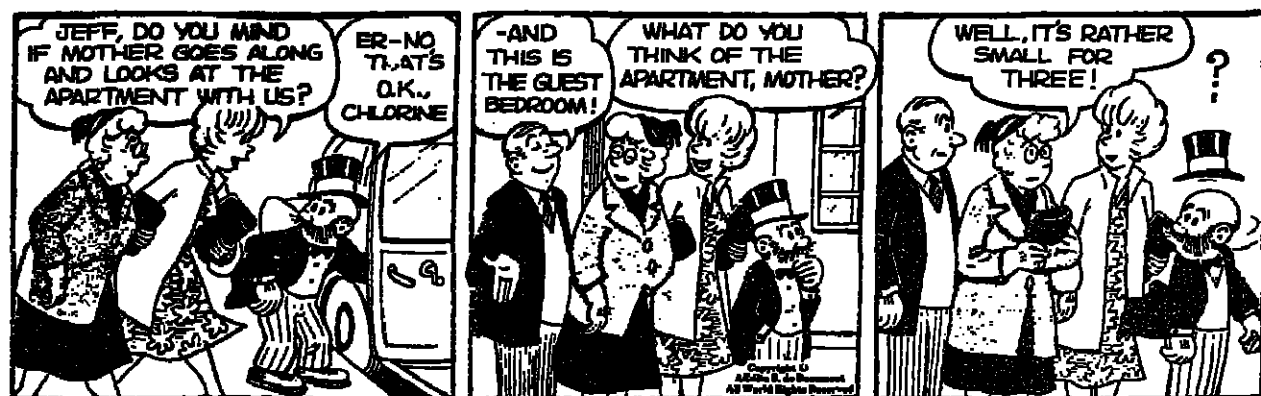
"But it is not a weapon that should be used lightly, if at all," the radio said.

South Africa, under intense international pressure to end its apartheid race segregation policies, faces tough sanctions from major trading partners in Europe and the United States.

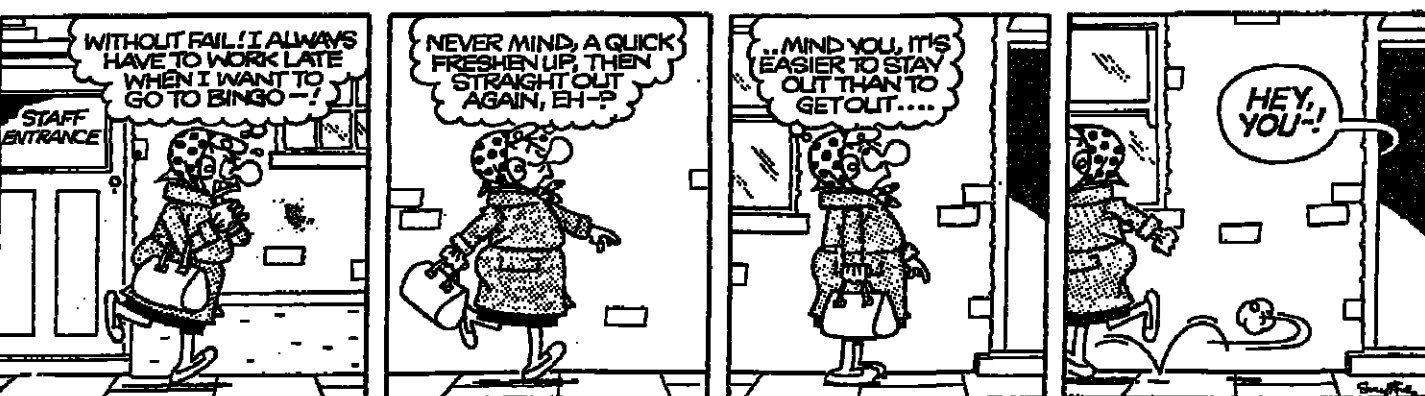
## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"My wife sent me because I'm blind to my faults."

## JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NEPOR

INNOO

HEHRST

FITANN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: UP IN

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLORY AUGUR FEINEL PHYSIC

Answer: What a dancer's reputation often rests upon—HER LEGS

## THE Daily Crossword

by Victor Jambor, Jr.

ACROSS

1 Footed bird for short

5 Motely

8 Amphibian

13 Central of India

15 Inter —

16 Japan's wife

17 Out genus

18 NFL playoff

20 Birth

21 Said in check

22 Stature

23 Gr. goddess

24 Secular

25 Inhabited

26 100, part

27 Golf score

28 System

29 Habit

30 Atom

31 NFL playoff

32 system



# S. Africa's Zulu chief says black civil war has begun

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, one of South Africa's most powerful black moderates, said Tuesday that the weekend slaying of a supporter's wife indicated a civil war among blacks had begun.

"This indicates the lengths to which those who wish to make this country ungovernable wish to go in brutality and hideousness," said Buthelezi, whose opposition to political violence and economic sanctions has estranged him from many anti-apartheid militants.

"It is un-African for women and children to be targets in a war and I am concerned about the Buthelezi, chief minister of KwaZulu tribal homeland issued a statement expressing shock at the 'cold-blooded murder' of Evelyn Sebalo, wife of KwaZulu legislator Winnington Sebalo.

She was killed and her three children seriously injured when their home was attacked Friday night by assailants using a hand grenade and automatic rifle.

Monday in Zwile, a township outside Port Elizabeth. More than 255 people, almost all of them blacks, have died in unrest since a state of emergency was declared on June 12.

The Bureau for Information identified the slain man in Soweto as Maxim Gaga, 28. A local journalist said Gaga's mother gave his age as 22.

Those injured, all male, ranged in age from 14 to 25, the bureau said. It had no details on their conditions.

Local reporters said many Soweto students returned to school Monday after boycotting classes last week. But they said boycotts began Monday at all 45 schools in Tembisa, another Johannesburg-area township, and persisted in several black communities.

Boycotters' demands include withdrawal of security forces, lifting of the 10-week-old state of emergency, and release of

detrained students.

Job Schoeman, a spokesman for the Department of Education and Training, said Monday that troops would be withdrawn from schools only when there are "no further interruption of schools by outsiders."

Earlier Monday, the information bureau said a 5-year-old black girl asleep in the home of a town councillor was killed late Sunday by a hand grenade thrown through the window in Imbali, a black township near Pietermaritzburg.

Also Monday, the opposition Progressive Federal Party called for a judicial inquiry into the May-June conflict at Crossroads squatter camp near Cape Town in which about 70,000 blacks were burned out of their shacks. A report by a party committee said the government made no effective effort to stop the factional fighting, arrested no one and undertook no comprehensive relief programmes.

## Central Americans reject contra training

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Three Central American nations suggested by U.S. officials as possible sites for training of Nicaraguan rebels have said publicly they will refuse to permit American troops to use their territory.

The government of El Salvador will not lend its territory for any destabilising opposition force, especially in the case of the contras. Vice President Rodolfo Antonio Castillo Claramonte of El Salvador said Monday.

Similar sentiments were expressed last week by Honduras and Panama as U.S. legislators said the three nations were likely spots for training of the rebels, known as contras, by the U.S. army. Backed by the United States, the contras are trying to overthrow the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

The contra training is included in the U.S. congressional bill to supply the rebels with \$70 million in military aid and \$30 million in non-lethal assistance.

Washington officials also have said some of the training could take place at American bases in the United States. Scores of Salvadoran soldiers have received instruction at Fort Bragg, South Carolina, and Fort Benning, Georgia, but it is far more expensive to train the troops in the United States than in Central America.

A majority of the 15,000 contras, fighting since 1981, are based in Honduras. A southern front operates out of Costa Rica.

The Honduran government of Jose Azcona only tacitly allows the rebel presence. And Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras last week categorically denied permission for training of the contras in his country.

Panamanian officials also have vetoed the idea.

Over the years, some contras have been trained in all three countries, according to intelligence sources. For the record, officials from the United States and the countries involved deny this.

Honduras, Panama and El Salvador are all strong U.S. allies that host American troops and receive hefty military and economic assistance. Whether their latest comments will translate into concrete resolve to keep out contra training — if the United States insists — was not known.

At least 1,000 American troops are based in Honduras, most of them at Pámerola Air Base, a Honduran facility. Joint military manoeuvres involving thousands of soldiers, including special forces, are organised from there.

## Bonn opposition pledges to scrap SDI agreement

NÜRNBERG, West Germany (AP) — Social Democrat Johannes Rau said Tuesday he would terminate West Germany's "Star Wars" agreement with the United States and ask Washington to take home its nuclear missiles deployed here, if he is elected chancellor next January.

In a speech to a Social Democratic Party congress in Nuremberg, Mr. Rau also conceded that "we are a long way from the goal" of retaking power from West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in national elections on Jan. 25.

Mr. Rau's speech marked the kick-off of his election campaign. Later Tuesday, he was to be officially confirmed by the 440 delegates at the Social Democrats' standard-bearer.

Mr. Rau said a Social Democratic-led government would terminate an accord the Kohl coalition signed in March supporting West German participation in the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) programme. The research programme for a space-based defence against nuclear missiles has been dubbed "Star Wars."

"A government under my leadership will terminate the SDI agreement and oppose plans for a European SDI," he said.

"Repairing our world is more important than arming space," said Mr. Rau, now the popular governor of North Rhine-Westphalia state.

Technically, the Bonn-Washington agreement was not necessary for West German companies to participate in Star Wars. But it stipulated that there would be equal sharing of technology developed under the programme a condition that West German industrialists had sought.

In his speech, Mr. Rau demanded the removal of nuclear-armed Pershing 2 and cruise missiles already stationed in West Germany and asked for a halt to deployment of any more cruise missiles.

NATO has deployed 108 Pershing 2 missiles in West Germany since the end of 1983, and has begun deployment of 96 cruise missiles. The rockets are U.S.-built.

Mr. Rau also called on Moscow to dismantle its nuclear missiles deployed in Communist East Germany and Czechoslovakia and to reduce the number of SS-20 missiles in the Soviet Union to the level of deployment in 1979.

## Opposition supporters go on rampage in Pakistan

KARACHI, Pakistan (R) — Protesters set fire to a railway station and a hotel in Pakistan's Sind province in renewed anti-government violence following the arrest of scores of opposition leaders two weeks ago.

Witnesses said 500 protesters set ablaze the new Jafra Railway Station in the centre of the province Monday morning and clapping as it was burnt down.

Other demonstrators set on fire a government rest house in the town of Johi, north of Karachi, witnesses said.

Two supporters of Benazir Bhutto, the most prominent opposition leader, tried to burn themselves alive in the town of Dadu, also in Sind. Police prevented them and charged them with attempted suicide.

The southern province has been the centre of anti-government violence since Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo's administration detained opposition leaders on Aug. 13 and 14 for defying a ban on political rallies.

At least 19 people have been killed in the fiercest protests since President Mohammad Zia ul Haq lifted nearly nine years of martial law in December.

Ms. Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), is serving a 30-day detention order in a jail on the outskirts of Karachi. Her lawyer, Hussain Shah Raashid, visited her Monday for the first time.

## Tamil group urges army to avoid civilian casualties

COLOMBO (R) — Moderate Tamil leaders have asked President Junius Jayewardene to call a halt to army artillery fire in Jaffna city to avoid further civilian casualties in a battle with separatist guerrillas.

Five civilians have been killed and 18 wounded in a two-day fight that started when the guerrillas mortared Jaffna Fort and two other military camps on Sunday. Exchanges continued Monday night.

The attack was launched as moderate Tamils met government officials in Colombo to discuss a compromise on demands for an

independent state for the minority group.

Appapillai Amirthalingam, secretary general of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), told Reuters that during the peace talks he asked Mr. Jayewardene to stop the army shelling.

"We impressed upon him that the shelling should be stopped because the whole civilian town was subjected to shelling," Mr. Amirthalingam said.

"He said he'll order the military not to shell but he added that the military's reply would be that the rebels were attacking the camps," he added.

## Singapore sentences Malaysian MP to prison

SINGAPORE (R) — The Singapore high court Tuesday sentenced Malaysian tycoon Tan Koon Swan to two years in prison for an offence related to the collapse of a major Singapore company last year.

Mr. Tan, who was also fined 500,000 Singapore dollars (\$250,000) immediately appealed against the sentence but the appeal was rejected.

A member of the Malaysian parliament and head of the country's largest Chinese party the Malaysian Chinese Association, Mr. Tan pleaded guilty Monday to a charge of abetting criminal breach of trust.

The prosecution said he used a series of complicated share deals to gain control of the firm, Pan-Electric Industries Ltd. and

artificially raise share prices. Pan-Electric later went into liquidation, triggering a crisis of confidence which closed the stock market for three days last December.

Mr. Tan, who appeared shocked by the sentence, rushed into the arms of his constant companion, Penny Chang, as his party supporters and journalists ringed round him.

News of the sentence pulled down Singapore share prices, with brokers saying the market started selling shares for fear of possible political repercussions.

If Mr. Tan defaults on payment of the fine, he faces a further six months imprisonment.

Mr. Tan was arrested in Singapore in January and was

released on bail of 41 million dollars (\$20 million) until Tuesday.

He still faces 14 other charges. They include nine charges of abetting criminal breaches of trust which he has denied. Five counts of cheating and fraud were set aside in the lower courts to await the outcome of Tuesday's hearing.

Mr. Tan pleaded guilty to abetting a Pan-Electric director to dishonestly dispose of company funds last September.

Tan's lawyer told the court Monday that Mr. Tan became unwittingly responsible for millions of dollars of contracts promising to buy back shares at future dates because of the actions of a stockbroker who later disappeared from Singapore.

## Free press remains 'endangered species'

BUENOS AIRES (USIA) — A free press remains an "endangered species" in today's world and requires a vigorous defence if the fundamental human right it protects is to be preserved, according to an official of the World Press Freedom Committee.

In an Aug. 25 address in Buenos Aires, Leonard Marks, the committee's treasurer and a former director of the U.S. Information Agency, reviewed the state of the press since the "New World Information and Communication Order" (NWICO) proposed by the Soviet Union, its allies and some Third World countries emerged for public debate in 1976.

"The debate is not over," he told the Business Commission of Independent Communications Media. "The debate is not over," he said, but the issues remain. It is with regret that I conclude today that the free press is in as much danger as it was ten years ago."

The free press is an "endangered species" today, Mr. Marks said. "The virus of censorship is causing a low-grade

fever that could affect others and reach near epidemic proportions in certain areas of the world. The danger is not theoretical; it is real and cannot be ignored."

He said the "only antibiotic known is in our hands — a vibrant, aggressive, articulate campaign against press controls and the observance of the protection of a free press reflected in the (U.N.) Declaration of Human Rights."

Citing the Index on Censorship, a London-based periodical that catalogues press controls throughout the world, Mr. Marks said it was "distressing to read that the heavy hand of the censor is present."

The closing of the independent newspaper La Prensa by Nicaragua's Sandinista government and the situation of the press in South Africa are "two stark examples of censorship at its worst," he said, and Costa Rica's maintenance of a law requiring journalists to be licensed despite an adverse court ruling is "indefensible for a freedom-loving country dedicated to democratic principles."

## Supreme court asked to reopen Aquino case

MANILA (R) — Two lawyers Tuesday asked the Philippine supreme court to re-open the case against 26 men cleared of involvement in the 1983 murder of President Corazon Aquino's husband, Benigno.

Lawyers Lupino Lazaro and Arturo De Castro said a lower court which tried former military chief Fabian Ver and 25 other men was pressured by deposed leader Ferdinand Marcos to acquit all of them.

"The best evidence was the decision itself wherein all the points in favour of the prosecution were overlooked and all the points in favour of the accused were magnified," Mr. Lazaro said.

The lawyers argued at a hearing for objections by defence lawyers against findings by a commission last month that there was a mistrial and that the case should be re-opened.

Benigno, long-time political foe of Marcos, was shot at Manila Airport on Aug. 21, 1983 on returning home from voluntary exile in the United States.

An official inquiry concluded in

1984 that the murder was a military plot and its majority report said Gen. Ver and the 25 other men were indictable for the killing.

The trial court acquitted them last December and supported the military version that Sen. Aquino was killed by a Communist agent who was himself gunned down by airport guards.

The murder started a chain of events that swept his widow, Corazon, to power after a military revolt drove Marcos and Gen. Ver into exile in Hawaii.

Defence lawyers Rodolfo Jimenez asked the supreme court to re-open the case against the 26 accused because it was not their fault if they were acquitted.

"Assuming for the sake of argument that there was pressure or collusion (among judges and prosecutors), that is a wrong that must be accounted for by those who were involved," Mr. Jimenez said.

The supreme court did not give a verdict and legal sources said it might decide on the case within one or two weeks.

## Seoul cabinet reshuffle meets opposition halfway

SEOUL (R) — South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan reshuffled his cabinet Tuesday following opposition demands that all ministers should resign for what it called misuse and lack of democracy.

Chun retained Prime Minister Lho Shin-Yong and Deputy Premier Kim Mahn-Je, the country's chief economic planner, but replaced 10 ministers in the 22-member cabinet.

A presidential spokesman said the move would help bring about an "historical turning-point" in the country's political development and improve the management of state affairs.

Ambassador to the United Nations Choi Kwang-Soo replaced Lee Won-Kyung as foreign minister and former Finance Minister Rha Woon-Bae, chief policy-maker of Chun's ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP), succeeded Kim Jin-Ho as trade minister.

The main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) has accused the government of giving in to U.S. trade pressure which they say has kindled strong anti-American feelings among South Koreans.

Other important changes included the replacement of interior minister and chief of the country's 100,000-strong police force Chung Suk-Mo with DJP member of parliament and former Vice-Interior Minister Kim Chong-Hoh.

Information Minister Lee Woon-Hong was succeeded by Lee Woon-Hee, a former presidential spokesman and head of the private Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation.

The NKDP had earlier demanded Chung and Lee be sacked following allegations that police have tortured dissidents and that Lee has hindered the freedom of the press.

## Soviets ready to sign South Pacific nuclear-free treaty

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — A top Soviet official on Tuesday said his country was willing to abide by a South Pacific nuclear-free zone treaty once Pacific nations ratify it.

"I can say very definitely that the Soviet Union will sign the appropriate protocols attached to the agreement declaring the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone," said Mikhail Kapitsa, the Soviet deputy foreign minister for Asia and Pacific affairs.

It was the first time Moscow had directly committed itself to signing the agreement, although Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev last month called for all nuclear powers to support the treaty.

Mr. Kapitsa, on a three-day visit to New Zealand, said Moscow would sign the protocols only after a majority of the 13 member-states of the South Pacific forum ratified the agreement, which was adopted by the group last year and finalised at a meeting in Suva, Fiji, earlier this month.

Ten of the forum members, including Australia and New Zealand, have signed the agreement.

The protocols ban the manufacture, stationing, and testing of nuclear weapons in the South Pacific, and the dumping of

nuclear waste in the region.

Three Pacific nations — Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Tonga — claim the treaty is too weak because it does not ban the movement of nuclear arms through the region and allows member states to draft their own policies on whether to permit visits by nuclear armed ships and aircraft.

Of the nuclear powers, only France has indicated it would not sign the protocol, saying it plans to continue nuclear testing at Mururoa atoll despite strong regional protests. China has pledged to honour the treaty and the United States and Britain have not announced decisions.

Mr. Kapitsa said the Soviet Union had made no fishing deals with South Pacific countries since one with Kiribati last year.

Australia, New Zealand and the United States have criticised what they see as moves by Moscow to expand its influence in the Pacific by concluding fishing deals with small, independent island nations.

Prime Minister David Lange said at the South Pacific Forum in Suva earlier this month that the inevitable result of a growing Soviet presence in the Pacific would be the growth of superpower rivalry.

## Aquino: Philippines on way to economic recovery

SINGAPORE (R) — President Corazon Aquino said Tuesday the Philippines had greater financial leeway to stimulate its economy and was on the road to recovery.

In a speech to business leaders after she arrived in Singapore from Jakarta, Mrs. Aquino said: "We look forward to relief this year from the negative GNP (gross national product) growth rates of 1984 and 1985."

She described her trip, her first since she assumed power after a civilian-backed military revolt in February, as a "journey to cement ASEAN brotherhood."

Mrs. Aquino said the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had agreed to a rise in the Philippines' reserve money ceiling by 20 per cent. It had also agreed to a larger budget percentage of GNP as budget deficit.

"The greater fiscal and monetary leeway that we shall enjoy allows my government to construct rural public works which will assist agriculture and stimulate the economy at its grass roots," she said.

Mrs. Aquino said negotiations with creditor commercial banks to lighten the country's debt burden would begin next month.

She invited Singapore businessmen to take advantage of investment opportunities in the Philippines, particularly in the privatisation of government-owned and controlled corporations. "The Philippine and Singapore economies are complementary with each other," she said.

Groups of Filipinos wearing yellow shirts and chanting "Cory, Cory," greeted Mrs. Aquino at

Singapore airport before she was driven to the presidential palace for a formal welcome by President Wee Kim Wee, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and other government officials and diplomats.

She was due to return home after her 36-hour visit to Singapore.

Aquino to meet rebel chief

Mrs. Aquino's brother-in-law Agapito Aquino said Tuesday the Philippines president will meet Muslim secessionist leader Nur Misuari in the south of the country next week as a prelude to peace talks on the long rebellion on Mindanao island.

Agapito Aquino, who returned from Saudi Arabia Monday night after talks with Mr. Misuari, said the rebel leader was returning to the Philippines in response to an invitation from the president.

"They will certainly meet next week somewhere in Mindanao, probably Sulu province," he told Reuters.

President Aquino returns Wednesday from visits to Indonesia and Singapore. There was no immediate comment from the presidential palace.

Mr. Misuari heads the main faction of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) which has been waging a long and bloody war for greater autonomy for the mainly Muslim areas of central and western Mindanao.

The rebels claim the government of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos reneged on an autonomy agreement signed in Tripoli 10 years ago.

## 400 Soviet Jews said to be gangsters in U.S.

WASHINGTON — The New York City Police Department (NYPD) has identified some 400 Soviet Jewish immigrants who are suspected of belonging to about a dozen crime organisations. The New York Times has reported.

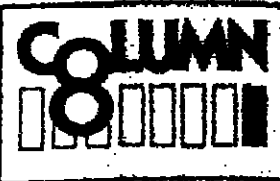
Prosecutors in New York and Florida say they have uncovered ties between the immigrant gangsters and the long-established organised crime groups the Justice Department calls collectively the mafia or La Cosa Nostra.

According to the Times report, about a dozen low-level gang

members have been convicted of extortion or are awaiting trials for murder or fraud in New York.

"They started out preying on their own kind in one neighbourhood," said Joel Campanella, a detective in the NYPD's intelligence division. "But they are trying to branch out into big-league stuff all over the country."

Another police officer said: "Not all of the people allowed to leave by the Soviet government were persecuted Jews."



## Tourists join protesters in Capri

CAPRI, Italy (R) — Foreign tourists joined demonstrators (about 200) to protest against sea pollution off this west coast island. Port officials said demonstrators shouted slogans and blocked the island's harbour during a two-hour protest aimed at urging the authorities to clean up the surrounding sea and make Capri an ecological example for the rest of the Mediterranean. A spokesman for the "Mare Vivo" (living sea) ecology group which organised the protest said the sea off Capri now had a serious pollution problem. Some of the refuse appeared to come from boats in the area, he added.

## 7 killed after card game quarrel

BANGKOK (R) — Seven people including a pregnant woman were shot dead when a quarrel erupted while they were playing cards at a house in central Thailand, police said Tuesday. They said a suspect was arrested early Tuesday morning after the killing in the Muang district of Kanchanaburi province late Monday night.

## Killer executed in Texas

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A man convicted of kidnapping a woman and killing her by burying her alive on a beach was executed by injection early Tuesday, becoming the third prisoner put to death in Texas in a week. The U.S. supreme court hours earlier had rejected an appeal from Chester Lee Wicker, who was condemned in the 1980 slaying of Suzanne Knuth, 22, Wicker, a high-school dropout who would have turned 38 on Thursday, died at 12:20 a.m. (0520 GMT), said Attorney General Jim Mattox. Officials said Wicker earlier in the day flew into a brief rage, smashing his electric fan, throwing his effects on his cell floor and stomping on them. But he was described as quiet during the van ride from death row at the Ellis Unit to Huntsville's Walls Unit, which houses the death chamber.

Murderer, robber escape from prison

HOUSTON (AP) — A convicted murderer and an armed robber escaped from a Louisiana prison, abducted a woman and forced her to drive to Houston, where they abandoned her and kidnapped another woman, police said Sunday. Danny Weeks, 33, and James Colvin, 32, were discovered missing along with a third inmate during a count at the Louisiana Penitentiary at Angola, Louisiana, said Warden Frank Blackburn. Weeks and Colvin, armed with a .38-calibre gun, abandoned the first woman unharmed and abducted a Houston woman as she left a supermarket, Allen said. The first woman, whom Allen did not identify, was not injured. Police have not been able to identify the second woman. After escaping, "tracks show that they got into the Mississippi River," Blackburn said. "They used a log to get out of the river in the area of Morganza. That's where the chase team tracked them."

## Half of Vietnamese children malnourished

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Surveys in Vietnam show that more than half of that country's children suffer from malnutrition, but only 1.5 per cent suffer from severe malnutrition, a Vietnamese specialist was quoted as saying Monday. The official Vietnam News Agency, monitored in Bangkok, quoted Dr. Tu Glay, director of the Institute of Nutrition in Hanoi, as saying institute surveys over the past five years concluded that "by international standards, only 48.5 per cent of the Vietnamese children have grown up normally." About 1.5 per cent are severely malnourished due to lack of breastfeeding, bad quality of weaning food, acute respiratory infections or diarrhoea, he said. Dr. Glay said the government was trying to deal with the problem by promoting breastfeeding, teaching mothers about nutrition, immunising children and improving their meals. Vietnam, one of the world's poorest countries, has experienced massive problems in food production and public health.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SEARIF ©1986 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### TWO-WAY END PLAY

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 7 4 3

♥ K J 9 8 3

♦ A 7

♣ 6 5

WEST EAST

♠ A Q J 8 6 ♠ 10 9

♥ 6 5 2 ♥ 4

♦ Q J 10 ♦ 9 8 4 3 2

♣ 10 7 ♣ Q J 9 8 4

that case this column would never have been written.

Against four hearts West made his normal lead of the top of his diamond sequence, won in dummy. Declarer drew three rounds of trumps, on which East discarded a low card in each minor suit. Obviously declarer's problem was to avoid losing three spade tricks and one club, and he found a most ingenious method of accomplishing that.

South cashed the ace-king of clubs and king of diamonds then ruffed a diamond on the table. Now he led a spade and, when East proved the nine, declarer covered with the king. West won, but an interesting position had arisen.

If West cashed two more spades, he would then have nothing left but spades and he would have to yield a ruff-and-stuff, allowing declarer to avoid losing a club trick. However, if West got off play with a low spade after winning the ace, East would win and could cash a club trick, but he, in turn, would end played and would have to exit with a minor-suit card, thereby also permitting a ruff-and-stuff and allowing declarer to escape with only two spade losers and a club.

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♣ 1 ♠ 2 ♣ Pass

2 NT Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

On most hands, an end play is designed against a particular defender. Once in a rare while, however, it makes no difference which defender wins the key trick—the end play operates no matter who is on lead.

Since his hand was balanced, North would have done better to pass his partner's leap to three no trump despite his five-card heart support. At that contract there were at least nine tricks no matter what the lead. But then again, in